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ALAN CROSS' TOP 10 ALBUMS OF 2009, PG 30



ACCIDENT A 34-year-old New Brunswick man died Thursday after a modular home fell on him in Millbrook as he was helping to move it.

RCMP say a show home was being prepared for moving when it fell on the victim, who was under the home at the time.

He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The man's identity is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The accident is being investigated by the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Workforce Development.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Halifax Mooseheads' Spencer Metcalfe, left, and Jessyko Bernard talk to Halifax's Peter Orser Thursday at the Canadian Blood Serv-

Mooseheads stopped by to help cheer donors on and draw attention to the importance of giving blood during the holiday season.

ices centre on Gottingen Street. Orser, a Mooseheads season ticket holder, was donating blood Thursday as a handful of

News on the Maye What's this

barcode for?







Obama humbled



There's evidence of an "alarming number" of Nova Scotia's 4,000 black students being placed in special programs for students with academic difficulties, according to a report for the provincial government released Thursday.

Enid Lee, the report's lead author and a consultant in anti-racism education, said it's difficult to know exactly how many teenagers are being incorrectly placed in the programs, known as Individual Program Plans.

Lee said that's because school boards don't keep records identifying the race of their students.

But she said she based her conclusion after seven focus groups in high

Report on inequality

• This report comes 15 years after the provincial government at the time acknowl-

edged the school system inequality.

schools across the province during which she consistently heard from parents who wondered how to get their teenagers out of the special programs.

"Every focus group we met with ... there were groups of people in them where parents said, 'I have a kid in the Individual Program Plan, and I'm not sure if you can get off of it," she told a news conference.

Lee, who has 40 years of classroom experience, said it's difficult to get out of the special programs and return to the regular stream where a black student can

earn scholarships. "Such plans ... are regarded by many of those interviewed as barriers to academically rigorous programs as well as to accessing scholarships specifically designated for African Nova Scotian learners," she wrote in the 107-page report.

Her report recommends the province identify the

number of black students in the special programs, and then look at ways to help them get back into the regular stream. It also identifies a general shortage of information on black students because school boards say they aren't able to collect the statistics.

Irving Carvery, the chair-man of the Halifax Regional School Board, said his board has attempted to track students based on race. But he said he often found stu-dents didn't fill out the forms that asked for that information.

"There are a number of reasons why they don't," Carvery said. "It's historical. It's complex.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

of H1N1 clinics

Flu Outbreak

HEALTH The last H1N1 vaccination clinics in the Halifax area will be held early next week.

Capital Health spokesman John Gillis said anyone who has not received the shot should plan to attend one of several clinics scheduled throughout HRM Monday and Tuesday at several local high schools.

Students and staff can be vaccinated during the school day, and the clinics will be open to the general public during the evening.

Monday's clinics will be held at Sir John A. Macdonald High School (4-8:30 p.m.) and J.L. Ilsley High School (3-8:30 p.m.). Tuesday's clinics are at Duncan MacMillan High School (3-6:30 p.m.) and Auburn Drive High School (4-8:30 p.m.).

"We're looking at the data, and we'll determine from that if there are any pockets of people we may have missed. If we do additional clinics in the new year, they'll be very targeted," Gillis said.

Officials estimate more than half the population of the Capital Health District has now been vaccinated. Although the large-scale clinics are shutting down for now, the shot will still be available in doctors' offices, walk-in clinics, and through some employers.

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Local



Browning headlines Stars on Ice

Stars on Ice is coming back to Halifax, with four-time world champion figure skater Kurt Browning among the performers scheduled to hit the ice. The show, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, will be at the Halifax Metro Centre April 22 at 7 p.m. Tickets go on sale Friday though the Metro Centre box office and all Ticket Atlantic outlets.

METRO INTERNATIONAL **NEWSPAPER** OF THE YEAR

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News in brief

ACCIDENT A 22-year-old female received minor injuries Thursday after being struck by a Metro Transit bus in Dartmouth. Halifax Regional Police say the incident took place at 6:35 a.m. at the Wyse Road bus terminal. Police say the pedestrian was walking across the bus lane when she was struck by the moving bus Police say the bus was travelling about five kilometres per hour at the time of the mishap. Police say no charges will be laid against the bus METRO HALIFAX

metr@news.ca

Video Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean condemns the killing of an activist opposed to a Canadian mine during a state visit to

Mexico at metronews ca/canada

Roster announced

Kevin Costner coming to Country Rockfest

PHILIP CROUCHER

Country music fans, let me hear yah say yee-haw.

Alan Jackson, Johnny Reid, Lonestar, George Canyon and Kevin Costner yes, the actor — are some of the performers scheduled to take the stage next sum-mer as part of Country Rockfest 2010, which will be held Aug. 6 and 7 at the Halifax Common.

The two-day festival is promoted by Power Promotional Events Inc. and will be the latest outdoor concert held at the popular downtown Halifax greenspace.

"It's going to be a great weekend," promoter Harold MacKay said at a press conference announcing the event Thursday. He added capacity for the concert will be 40,000, with tickets going on sale Tuesday at 9 a.m.

What you need to know

• LINEUP: Friday, Aug. 6: Johnny Reid, George Canyon, One More Gill; Saturday, Aug. 7: Alan Jackson, Kevin Costner with Modern West, Billy Currington and Lonestar.

• TICKETS: Go on sale Dec. 15 at 9 a.m. through Ticket Atlantic. A holiday special is taking place until the end of the year that will see a week-

Without question, Jackson is the highlight of this star-filled musical lineup. The multiple Country Music Award winner has enjoyed numerous No. 1 hits and, in 2006, headlined a country music show with Brooks and Dunn at Magnetic Hill in Moncton, which drew more than 40,000 fans.

Jackson will headline the show on Aug. 7. That concert includes Costner, who is looking to make a name end pass available for \$89 for general seating and \$189 for VIP seating. For Friday, Aug. 6, only, general admission seating is \$59 while VIP seating is \$129. For Saturday, Aug. 7, general admission seating is \$89 and VIP seating is \$189. Ticket prices do not include HST or a \$10 service charge. Children under 12 get in free.

for himself in country music as the lead to the band Modern West.

"He's really trying to get exposure," said MacKay, adding Costner has asked to perform a 90-minute set in Halifax. "He really wants to make a career of this."

MacKay said the stage for the concert is moving back to the northwest part of the Common where it was located for both the Rolling Stones and Keith Urban



Alan Jackson, performing live earlier this year, is the headliner for Country Rocks 2010, set for the Halifax Common Aug. 6-7.

Second outdoor concert in cards?

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

Harold MacKay has his sights set on a second outdoor concert for the Halifax Common next summer, but made it clear Thursday which group it wouldn't be.

"It won't be U2," MacKay proclaimed of the band always dropped as a favourite for many to see live here.

But MacKay — president of Power Promotional Events Inc. — said they are talking to several different

"It would be rock 'n' roll, not country."

Harold MacKav. Power Promotional Events Inc.

acts and while they have "had some rejections" he remains confident some-

thing will get announced. "It would be rock 'n' roll, not country," he said.

"That should be coming," he added.

MacKay said the successful 2008 summer concerts on the Common featuring

Paul McCartney and Kiss has made his job easier selling concerts here. He said that's especially true for Sir Paul, which drew more than 50,000 fans.

"It's almost a treat to call them up (now)," MacKay said, referring to the posi-tive feedback Sir Paul has given about his show here.

MacKay didn't give an exact figure, but said the cost of holding Country Rocks 2010 will be "well over \$1.5 million."

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The price of gas was expected to drop by three cents overnight, according to reports. Gas should cost just below one dollar per litre today in the Halifax area. METRO HALIFAX

\$1M already spent for Springhill jail: MLA

It's ridiculous for Darrell

On Wednesday, the premier had said Scott's jail announcement in spring was just a political announcement and money hadn't been put aside.

Thursday, Scott said \$1

"Now he's saying there's

Dexter's comments became the latest point of

ment), he'd be the only guy in Nova Scotia who believed it."

Murray Scott, Tory MLA

contention in the bitter debate since the NDP announcement to build a single, central jail to save money. That cancels a Tory plan to build two jails in Springhill and Antigonish.

The Tories had budgeted \$18 million for the jail before being defeated. The fall NDP budget removed

that money. Yesterday Justice Minister Ross Landry clarified the NDP position.

He said the planned Springhill jail wouldn't have met correctional needs but there was no money set aside for another jail. A review followed, which showed a single larger jail would save \$5 million in building costs and \$1.7 million annually. "To go ahead and have

built that facility and then burden the taxpaver with having to build another facility would be a bad decision on my part," said Landry.

He said the Tory government had 10 years to build the jail but only announced it days before their government fell. Scott said that's because they were working on getting federal infrastructure funding but went ahead even after that fell through.

He said the original plan for two jails would have fit 100 more prisoners so the NDP plan is only cheaper because "it's a lot smaller."

PAUL MCLEOD "If he believed (there's no commit-

paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

Dexter to claim the Springhill jail wasn't a true commitment when it was "99 per cent ready to go," Tory MLA Murray Scott insisted Thursday.

million had already been spent on detailed designs and the jail was just a few public consultations away from a scheduled groundbreaking this September or October.

no commitment," said Scott. "If he believed that, he'd be the only guy in Nova Scotia who believed it.

Town CAO points to land deal

What the agreement says

A signed land agreement is proof the province had an agreement in place to build a new provincial jail in Springhill, says the town's CAO Don Tabor.

The claim contradicts comments this week from NDP Premier Darrell Dexter, who said Wednesday there wasn't a firm commitment to build a new in Springhill and added, that despite the April 29, 2009 announce-ment the project was in motion, it was without funding.

In a document obtained by the Amherst Daily News, however, the was making province promises much earlier than the contested announcement.

In a signed agreement between the town and

• "The Province shall take all responsible steps and procedures to protect the reservoir and the waters of the reservoir as a source and supply of good quality water for the benefit of

the town during the construc-

Steve Chiason, acquisition and disposal officer for the Springhill for \$1, with pro-

Landry says the new jail will not be built in Springhill or anywhere else in Cumberland Countion, use, maintenance, repair, replacement and operation by the province of a Correctional Facility on the Provincial Lot," the contract dated March 16, 2009 reads.

AMHERST DAILY NEWS

province, the government purchased 33.06 acres of land — dubbed the "Provincial Lot" — from visions for the new jail near the community's secondary water source as well as other promises.

Justice Minister Ross

ty, opting instead to build one jail to replace the aging jails in Amherst and Antigonish.

Tabor, a former NDP candidate, resigned his position as the party's Cumberland South riding association president earlier this week and feels there was a firm agreement in

"It wasn't a pie-in-the sky agreement. It was the real thing," he said.

AMHERST DAILY NEWS

Ex-house speaker to head salary review

PAUL MCLEOD

paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

POLITICS The province has picked its man to review political salaries and expenses.

The Internal Economy Board has hired former Tory house speaker Arthur Donahoe to conduct a review of MLA pay.

It will cost \$59,000 and Donahoe's final report is due by July 31, 2010.

"He has an expertise.

He's well thought of internationally, he's a formal head of the parliamentary association," said deputy premier Frank Corbett.

"So, he brings to that an international perspective and the perspective of a former speaker so he knows the intricacies. I think he's a great choice.'

Donahoe is charged with reviewing all issues under control of the Internal Economy Board, the group of MLAs that set salaries. expenses and perks.

Another review is currently underway by the province's auditor general, Jacques Lapointe. That report is expected to be released this January.

Corbett said the six-

month delay between the two reviews is partly due to Donahoe being out of the province for a period of time.

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Teen actor Dunnery Bond will be reading from Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol on Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Keshen Goodman Library. METRO HALIFAX

local

metro

Little Sackville River Whynott gets the slip



An energetic trout wriggles free from MLA Mat Whynott's (Upper Sackville-Hammonds Plains) hands. To help the Little Sackville River recover from a recent oil spill, roughly 2,000 speckled trout were released into the Little Sackville River and Main Sackville River on Thursday.

Coast policy 'overdue'

Members of the Coastal **Coalition of Nova Scotia** say a government report is the first step toward a sustainable coastline in the province.

The report, titled The State of Nova Scotia's Coast, said the province will suffer physically, ecologically and economically without the co-ordinated participation of those with a stake in the future of the coastline.

Released Wednesday by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, the

www.clearwater.ca

document gives overview of the condition of Nova Scotia's coastal areas and outlines a framework that it says will "focus efforts to tackle complex coastal issues.'

The Coalition said it is pleased the public is finally seeing a status report on the health of Nova Scotia's coastline.

"A coastal policy for Nova Scotia is long overdue," said Ishbel Munro of the Coastal Communities Net-"We're playing catchup with other jurisdictions, like Maine and New Brunswick.

The report said storms, which have always affected Nova Scotia's coast, will become more economically devastating as sea levels rise and the effects of global warming are felt.

It also noted depletion in the province's shellfish stocks. In 2003, the shellfish catch stood at 155,000 tonnes, but dropped to 127,969 tonnes in 2006.

ALY THOMSON/FOR METRO HALIFAX THE CANADIAN PRESS

7 Days/Week 6am-9pm



7 Days/Week 9am-6pm



Weekend, December 11-13, 2009 Highway 102 detour lanes open

Detour lanes for southbound traffic on Highway 102 (Bicentennial Highway) toward Halifax opened Thursday at the Larry Uteck Interchange. The detour provides two traffic lanes to carry inbound traffic around the construction site. Speed limit on the detour is 80 kilometres per hour. METRO HALIFAX

Feed N.S. helpline expands to offer parental help

telephone helpline run by Feed Nova Scotia is expanding, the group announced Thursday.

local

Previously accessible to children and youth, the helpline has now been expanded to provide

provincewide parental support service.

"By making the service available provincewide, more families and individuavailable als will have access to the resources and information they need to support our children and young people" said Robert Wright, execudirector province's Child and Youth Strategy.

The helpline will also be doubling its working hours in the coming months, operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Parents can reach the tollfree line by calling 1-877-521-1188 province-wide, or calling 421-1188 in the Hali-AMY BOND/ fax area.

FOR METRO HALIFAX

Avoid lotto gifts for youth: NSGC

Corporation is reminding parents in the province to refrain from stuffing minors' stockings with scratch 'n' win and lottery tickets this Christmas.

A study released Tuesday by the International Centre for Youth Gambling Problems and High Risk Behaviours at McGill University shows many parents do not recognize lottery tickets as gambling, and are likely unaware of the direct correlation between vouth gambling and problem gambling later in life.

Marie Mullally, NSGC president and CEO, said her organization is partnering with the International Centre and other gaming groups to raise awareness about the effect of giving lottery tickets to minors.

"It's important for parents to set the example by showing their kids that gambling is only meant for adults," said Mullally in a release Thursday. "Lottery and scratch 'n' win tickets may seem innocent enough, but

our message is that youth should not be gambling."

The report found that 19 per cent of high school students receive one or more lottery or scratch tickets as gifts, with 86 per cent of those coming from a family member.

Robyn McIsaac, vice-president of public affairs and prevention programming at the NSGC, said the effects of gambling at a young age could be long-lasting.

"Problem gamblers have indicated that they have started gambling as early as 10 years old," said McIsaac. "It can start easy and with what may seem as innocent as giving a lottery ticket as a

The report - commissioned by an array of organizations interested in gambling behaviour, including the NSGC — had a three per cent margin of error or 19 out of 20. The results were gathered from an online survey of about 2,700 Canadian parents.

ALY THOMSON/FOR METRO HALIFAX



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Visit animals at natural history museum this weekend The Museum of Natural History will open its lower level this weekend, allowing visitors to see animals from the Museum's Nature Centre. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Will clearcutting get the axe in Nova Scotia?

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

Nova Scotia will see an end to whole-tree clearcutting perhaps as early as January or February if the province's natural resource minister gets

"I think it should be out in Nova Scotia," John Mac-Donell said Thursday when asked if the heavily criticized practice should be banned

Usually clearcutting involves leaving tree tops, branches and other fibre to spark regrowth. But with biomass becoming source of energy, the province is seeing more full-tree harvesting that sweeps the area clean.

The Ecology Action Centre has been highlighting the barren remains, particularly a muddy field near Caribou Mines.

MacDonell agreed Thursday the site was "pretty devastating.'

"The highest nutrient components are in the tops of leaves or needles ... Really I think for the health of the forest and for

future generations, that has to stay. body's made an argument to me that seems sensible for taking it," he said.

John Macdonel

There are no regulations preventing whole-tree harvesting so the company responsible, Northern Pulp Nova Scotia, just had to meet normal

rules around clearcutting. MacDonell said he's waiting for an expert review's recommendations to come back before crafting new rules, but that

He wouldn't comment on lowering the amount of clearcutting in province, saying he didn't want to preempt the panel's recommendations

The news was warmly received by the Ecology Action Centre's Jamie Simp-

"(Whole-tree harvesting) has a huge environmental impact," he said.

"The science around this issue is quite clear that when you remove the tops and the branches and all of the deadwood ... you get a decline in nutrients, you get a decline in long-term forest productivity.'

Simpson said it also hurts biodiversity, displaces wildlife and robs the soil of carbon. He said he hopes the new rules will also push a reduction in overall clearcutting in the province.



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WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS

EFFECTIVE Monday, December 14, 2009

WHEREAS due to the congestion on the streets of the Halifax Regional Municipality caused by vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the limitation of the free use of the streets liable to be caused by the presence of snow and ice thereon, I am of the opinion that special conditions exist and I do so declare.

THEREFORE under the authority of Section 202 of the Motor Vehicle Act, as Traffic Authority for the Halifax Regional Municipality, I make the following regulations:

- Notwithstanding that certain traffic signs or parking meters have been erected in the Halifax Regional Municipality prohibiting or permitting the parking of vehicles upon sections of the highway during the hours stated thereon:
 - No person shall park an unattended vehicle upon any highway in the core service area of the Halifax Regional Municipality between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. of the same day;
- The provisions of Subsection 1 shall not apply to:
 - A motor vehicle parked by a physician or surgeon reasonably near his or her office or residence and immediately available for professional calls; or parked reasonably near where he or she is actually engaged in professional duties.
 - A motor vehicle parked by an operator actually engaged in discharging duties as a police constable or a member of the police of the Canadian
 - A motor vehicle parked by an operator actually engaged in discharging duties as a member of the Halifax Regional Fire Service;
 - A commercial vehicle parked by an operator for the purpose of loading or unloading merchandise:

 - A taxi parked at a taxi stand.

 A motor vehicle belonging to a public utility company or corporation parked reasonably near the residence of an operator and immediately available for emergency calls.
- It shall be an offence for any person to fail to comply with these Regulations and such person shall be liable to a penalty as provided by Section 293 of the Motor Vehicle Act.
- These regulations shall be full force and in effect from the 14th day of December, A.D., 2009, until the 12th day of March A.D., 2010, both dates

Approved this 1st day of December, 2009 with respect to all highways in the Halifax Regional Municipality under the direct responsibility of the HRM Traffic Authority.

> Ken Reashor PEng Traffic Authority, Halifax Regional Municipality

Pastor sentenced

A 45-year-old church pastor from Surrey, B.C., who reportedly worked in the Halifax Régional Municipality for a number of years, has been sentenced to a 15-month jail term and three years probation for possessing child pornography.

Larry Robert Collins, a

pastor with the Church of Nazarene, was sentenced Tuesday following his conviction for making a sexually explicit video that used photographs of the girl and posting it on the Internet.

Collins was arrested after the video was spotted online and traced by the RCMP's Integrated Child Ex-

ploitation Unit. Police say in addition to posting the video, Collins named the young victim and impersonated her in several online accounts that contained a web link leading to the video. A charge of distribution of child pornography was stayed by the Crown.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

ROBBERY Police are searching for three suspects after a 23year-old man was jumped and robbed in Halifax Wednesday night. The victim was walking

in the 1600 block of Larch Street when he was attacked from behind and thrown to the ground. Three men stole the victim's wallet, iPod and

cellphone before fleeing down Jubilee Road. The suspects are described as being between the ages of 17 and 24.

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December 11th until December 17th



10

Canadian universities try to recruit Chinese students

Representatives from 14 Canadian universities will try to attract Chinese doctoral students to their schools during a recruitment mission in Beijing starting Friday, competing with institutions from eight other countries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada



\$50K reward in homicide case

The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary is offering a \$50,000 reward for information about a human skull that was found near St. John's in 2001 that they believe is from a homicide victim. Police released this reconstruction of a man, pictured, they believed died in Newfoundland and Labrador in the late 1990s. He probably lived in Quebec or Ontario or possibly the northeastern United States, and he was probably born in the late 1950s or early 1960s, officers said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Top court to hear case on Air India legal bills

B.C. says acquitted man owes millions

The legal tussle over a multimillion-dollar legal bill between the B.C. government and a man

acquitted in the Air India bombings is headed for Canada's highest court.

Supreme Court of Ćanada said Thursday it will hear an appeal by the province over Ripudaman documents it seized Singh Malik in connection to the assets and liabilities of Ripudaman Singh Malik.

În March 2005, a B.C. Supreme Court judge acquitted Malik and co-accused Ajaib Singh Bagri in the 1985 bombings of two separate Air India flights

that killed a total of 331

Prior to the start of the trial in 2003, the B.C. gov-ernment signed an

agreement with the millionaire businessman to pay the costs of his defence team up front. Malik was to repay the government the cost of his 11-member team. He hasn't, despite government demands dati back to December 2005. dating

Malik is suing the Crown for malicious prosecution, and launched legal action in 2007 arguing that he shouldn't have to pay if his allegations prove true in court. He also claimed the deal he made with the province to repay his legal fees was made under duress.

launched its own court action alleging Malik and his family members conspired to defraud the Crown by hiding his assets and disguising his net worth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ottawa Torch comes to Commons | Opposition



Former Canadian Olympic figure skater Barbara Ann Scott carries the Olympic torch into the House of Commons during a ceremony on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, on Thursday.

votes to get Afghan documents

TERROR Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government has lost its iron grip on information about detainee treatment in Afghanistan after a show down that pitted the power of the ruling party against the power of Parliament and the combined force of the opposition parties.

The Liberals narrowly pushed through a motion in the Commons on Thursday that forces Harper's government to release waves of unedited documents so that Parliament can examine whether Afghan prisoners detained by Canadian forces were subject to torture when handed over to local authorities, and what the government knew about the issue.

The motion passed with a vote of 145 to 143.

It is not clear how that information will be released in days ahead, or whether the government will continue to resist the documents' release.

Failure to hand over the material however could result in the Conservative government being found in contempt of Parliament and could see the Commons asking the police to step in and obtain the information that has now been formally ordered released.

News in brief BONUSES Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Thursday he has no plans to tax excessive bonuses handed out to bank executives, but warned Canadian bankers they must follow international guidelines on compensation. CHRISTMAS A Mississauga. Ont., 10-year-old girl's wish to spend Christmas with her terminally ill father in Fredericton is coming true thanks to the kindness of a stranger.

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a year investigating cash transfers made between 2003 and 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EMBEZZLEMENT A former em ployee of a northern Manitoba First Nation is facing charges

after police allege she embez-

zled more than \$1 million from the band. RCMP officers spent

Small aviation companies are lobbying federal officials and politicians, seeking compensation for what they say will be big disruptions due to Olympic security rules. Members of the Air Transport Association say tighter regulations and flight restrictions are going to cost some of them big bucks. THE CANADIAN PRESS

canada

Montreal Torch run protest



Protesters hold a sign in Place Jacques Cartier in the Old Port of Montreal prior to Olympic torch celebrations on Thursday.

Delay threatens Afghan prisoners hearing

INQUIRY A public hearing by a military watchdog inprisoners has but whether the federal government actually lets it proceed is uncertain.

inquiry was debated Thursday amid the fallout from Gen. Walt Natynczyk's explosive revelation that a Canadian-captured tainee was indeed abused, contrary to the Tory gov-

TAX LAWS Non-profit organiza-

tions are calling on the federal

government to change income

tax laws to make it easier for

News in brief

ernment assurances that there was no evidence of torture prior to 2007.

Peter Tinsley, the outgoing chairman of the Military Police Complaints Commission, said it was necessary to set a date for the resumption of the inquiry, but the Conservative government has yet to appoint his successor something that could further delay or even kill the proceedings.

philanthropists to donate pri-

vate company shares and real

estate to charities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Parliament bars Greenpeace tees

Greenpeace T-shirts have been banned from Parliament after the organization staged an illegal demonstration on the Hill this week.

The ban is due to "recent events," a security guard told a reporter from The Canadian Press who entered the Parliament buildings as a visitor Thursday wearing a Green-

Environmental protest

About 20 Greenpeace activists were arrested Monday after scaling the roof of the Parliament buildings and unfurl-

peace T-shirt.

The reporter put on the shirt to confirm reports that security was searching visitors for Greenpeace ing a sign attacking Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff for their environmental positions.

The T-shirt was brought to the attention of nearby officers who told the reporter she could not enter the buildings. They relented after she agreed to turn the T-shirt inside-out.

A House of Commons security guard then issued a stern warning: "We won't tolerate anything. We will charge you.'

The protest embarrassed RCMP and other security officials on Parliament

THE CANADIAN PRESS

to the handling of Afghan been rescheduled for the spring,

The resumption of the







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Senator's fraud trial hears from an aide in fear

The former aide at the centre of fraud allegations against Senator Raymond Lavigne was described Thursday as an intimidating ex-bouncer. Louise Martin, another one-time aide, told the senator's fraud trial she was afraid of Daniel Cote, who allegedly worked as Lavigne's personal handyman at taxpayers' expense. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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5,000 blast plan to sell NB Power

Thousands of people in New Brunswick are speaking out about the sale of NB Power.

New Brunswick's Conservative Opposition has presented the provincial government with petitions signed by more than 5,000 people who are opposed to the sale.

Tory Leader David Alward says some of the petitions say no to the sale.

Others, Alward said, call on the Liberal government to hold a referendum or wait for the next election before finalizing the deal.

The petitions have been tabled in the legislature and Alward says more petitions are coming.

Energy Minister Jack Keir says he's not upset by the petitions because it is democracy at work.

He says there are still a lot of people who don't understand the benefits of the deal

Under the deal, Hydro-Québec would buy the major assets of NB Power for almost \$4.8 billion and provide more than \$5 billion in rate cuts over five years.

Hospitals wage war on lethal sepsis

DEATH A lethal condition is killing more than 9,300 people each year.

It's sepsis, a serious body-wide response to infection that patients often acquire while being treated in hospital.

A report released Thursday by the Canadian Institute for Health Information provides a pan-Canadian snapshot of sepsis, one of the top causes of death in hospitals, said Indra Pulcins, a director.

"One in three patients with sepsis in Canada will end up dying from it — so it's about 30 per cent," Pulcins said.

Signs of sepsis are fever or lower-than-usual temperature, rapid heart rate and breathing and an abnormally high or low number of white blood cells.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

World

57 held in Philippines

Militiamen demand murder, banditry charges dropped

Government-armed former militiamen wanted for murder and banditry took more than 70 villagers and children hostage Thursday from a southern Philippines village, demanding charges be dropped against them before they would free the captives.

The abductions raised fresh questions over the government's long-standing policy of arming civilian volunteers to protect against insurgencies. Just the day before, 100 other militiamen in the south were accused of slaughtering civilians in the country's worst political mas-

Hours after the kidnapping Thursday, the gunmen freed the 17 children they held after talking with a government negotiator. They continued to hold 57 hostages, mostly women.

Negotiations were to resume Friday outside three remote hilltop huts in the southern Philippine hinterland where the gunmen had holed up with their captives.

For decades, the Philippines government has armed civilian volunteers

- often poorly trained and ill-disciplined — as a backup security force in areas with communist or Muslim insurgencies.

Human rights groups have called on the Philip-pines to stop arming civilians, saving the region is already awash with weapons from the ongoing conflicts.

At least 100 government militiamen are among 161 suspects in last month's massacre of 57 people in an election convoy in Maguindanao province, on the opwestern side of posite volatile Mindanao Island.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Humbled and hawkish, Obama accepts Nobel Peace Prize

NORWAY U.S. President Barack Obama accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on Thursday in Oslo with a striking defence of war, saying that evil must be vigorously opposed even as he made an impassioned case for building a "just and lasting peace.

Pronouncing himself humbled by such an hon-our so early in "my labours on the world stage," Obama nevertheless turned his Nobel moment into an unapologetic defence of armed intervention times of self defence or moral necessity.



Canadian and Alaskan Inuit demonstrate against U.S. President Barack Obama receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, in front of the U.S. Embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark, Thursday.

Busy man

• U.S. President Barack Obama's decision to break with tradition and not follow the lead of past Nobel Peace Prize winners bewildered some Norwegians. Others thought he was being impolite, as he skipped out on a host of activities, including Friday's Nobel Concert. Obama blamed his sched-

It was a jarring moment when Obama, in the midst of the ceremony, said of U.S. troops in Afghanistan: "Some will kill. Some will troops be killed."

He lauded previous Nobel winner Martin Luther King Jr., as a preacher of nonviolent action. But he added, "A nonviolent movement could not have halted Hitler's armies. Negotiations cannot convince al-Qaida's leaders to lay down

their arms.'

He drew laughter when he acknowledged "the considerable controversy that your generous decision has generated."

"My accomplishments are slight," Obama said, by comparison to such "giants of history." In addition to other Nobel winners, he said the unrecognized masses who fight for peace are "far more deserving."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

CHINA Towering eight stories, the Golden Lamp Church was built to serve nearly 50,000 worshippers. But that was before hundreds of police and hired thugs descended on the mega-church, smashing doors and windows, seizing Bibles and sending dozens of

worshippers to hospitals with serious injuries, members and activists say. Today, the church's co-pastors are in iail. The gates to the church in the northern province of Shanxi are locked and a police armoured personnel vehicle sits outside. The closure of

what may be China's first mega-church is the most visible sign that the communist government is determined to rein in the rapid spread of Christianity, with a crackdown in recent months that church leaders call the harshest in THE ASSOCIATED PRESS years.

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Crackdown after South African citizenship given away

South Africa on Thursday suspended dozens of officials being investigated for giving citizenship to mainly Pakistani foreigners, nearly a year after Britain warned that corrupt officials were handing out false South African passports. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senate backs bill to protect sources

JOURNALISM A bill to protect reporters' confidential sources in U.S. federal court cleared the Senate Iudiciary Committee on Thursday.

The bill does not give journalists absolute authority to protect sources, that can be overridden in national security cases.

The legislation has support from media organizations. Conservatives and some in the intelligence community believe it can harm attempts to track classified information THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Climate emails fuelling skeptics

Some Republicans heading to Copenhagen to argue against greenhouse gas reductions



At a critical time, the uproar over stolen emails suggesting scientists suppressed contrary views about climate change has emboldened skeptics including U.S. congressional Republicans looking to scuttle

President Barack Obama's push for mandatory reductions in greenhouse gases.

The email brouhaha, dubbed "Climategate" by doubters, comes as U.S. delegates to the international climate conference in Copenhagen are trying to convince the world the United States is determined to move aggressively to rein

in heat-trapping pollution. To counter the delegates,

'Deep' evidence

 More than 1,700 scientists in the U.K. have signed a statement to defend the "deep and extensive" evidence that climate change is real and is the result of human activity.

a group of Republican lawmakers is going to Copen-hagen to argue against mandatory greenhouse gas reductions.

The climate skeptics gained political momentum when former Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin said Obama should boycott the negotia-tions in Denmark and "not be a party to fraudulent scientific practices" - a clear reference to the purloined emails from computers belonging to scientists at a British climate research centre.

Obama is going anyway. Former vice-president Al Gore, the most recognized voice on climate change, quickly rebutted Palin and accused the climate deniers in an interview with CNN television of "taking things out of context and misrepresenting" what the emails actually said.

That has not stopped Republican members of Congress, two dozen of whom are writing a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon demanding that he investigate the emails. Republican lawmakm.metrenews.ca



ers say they will loudly and often raise questions about what they consider a corruption of climate science at the Denmark conference, where delegates from 192 nations are trying to forge a climate agreement.

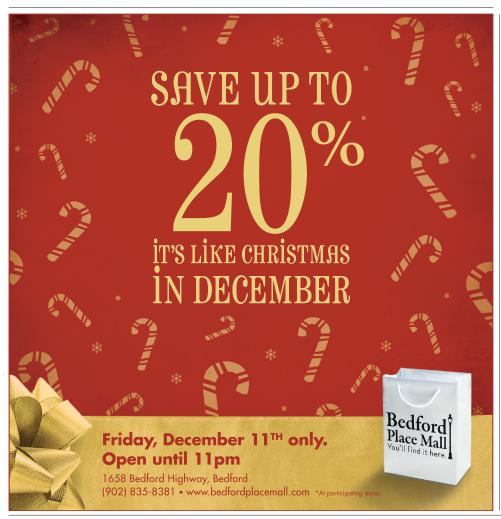
It all began when hackers broke into a computer system belonging to a highly respected climate research centre at Britain's University of East Anglia, stole several thousand emails span-ning a decade between some of the worlds leading climate scientists, and three weeks ago put some of the spiciest ones on the Internet. One referred to using a "trick" that could be used to "hide the decline" of tem-

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

BRITAIN H1N1 flu is far less dangerous than originally feared, British officials said Thursday — about 100 times less lethal than the 1918 Spanish flu. To determine how deadly the virus is, the British health department tracked all reported swine flu patients hospitalized between July and November. In a paper published online in the British journal BMJ, experts estimated that out of every 100,000 infected people in Britain, about 26 died. That is about 100 times less deadly than the devastating 1918 Spanish flu, which killed at least 50 million people worldwide. Additionally, H1N1 appears to be nearly 10 times less fatal than the flu pandemics in 1957 and 1968. the British numbers showed.

TURKEY A methane gas explosion ripped through a coal mine in western Turkey on Thursday, trapping about 15 miners, a local official said. Mayor Sadi Kurtulan of the town of Mustafakemalpasa said about 15 miners were trapped after the blast caused a shaft to collapse at the mine in the village of Devecikonagi in western Bursa province. Kurtulan said the explosion occurred nearly 215 metres below the surface and rescue workers were trying to evacuate the miners. Around five workers were pulled out and hospitalized, he said. Accidents are not uncommon in Turkish mines due to safety violations, outdated equipment and high concentrations of methane THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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world 15

Santa in Beirut Sleigh tripper



People gathered at the international airport in Beirut, Lebanon, on Thursday to greet Santa Claus upon his arrival from Finland. He will visit schools, medical centres and a Christmas village.

Five young American Muslims arrested in Pakistan Online links

rive young American Muslims arrested in Pakistan met with representatives of a group linked to al-Qaida and asked for training, but were turned down because they didn't have "references" from trusted militants, a Pakistani security official said Thursday.

Another senior officer said the five men wanted to fight jihad, or holy war, in northwestern Pakistan and • The five Americans who have been arrested in Pakistan reportedly first tried to contact jihadist groups through Facebook and YouTube.

U.S. men sought to join jihadists: Official

to battle American troops in Afghanistan.

The case is another worrisome sign that Americans

may be susceptible to terrorist recruitment from within the U.S. It comes after charges against a Chicago man accused of plotting international terrorism.

U.S. officials in Pakistan have now visited the men in custody. Their disappearance from the area of Washington, D.C., late last month (one of them left a militaristic farewell video, saying Muslims must be defended)

prompted a frantic search by friends and family, and an investigation by worried counterterrorism officials.

Javed Islam, a regional police chief in Pakistan, said the men met with a banned organization, Jaishe-Mohammed in Hyderabad, and with representatives of a related group, Jamat-ud-Dawa, in Lahore. Those groups turned down their requests. The ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

CATCH-22 Honduras's coupinstalled government says ousted leader Manuel Zelaya is free to leave the country and fly to Mexico, but only if he goes as a private citizen seeking political asylum. Zelaya, however, refuses to concede that he is no longer president. MEDIA SELL-OFF The Nielsen Co. is selling some of its biggest trade journals, including The Hollywood Reporter and Billboard. It also said it will shut down Editor & Publisher, which has chronicled the newspaper business for 108 years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yukon is changing its ADOPTION LAWS

On May 2, 2010, Yukon will open its adoption records.

This is an important reminder that if you were involved in an adoption in Yukon, your rights around your personal information and privacy are changing.

Beginning April 30, 2010, adopted adults and birth parents will have access to identifying information from birth records and adoption orders.

If an adoption order was made before April 30, 1991, adopted adults and birth parents can file a disclosure veto to prevent the release of information.

If you want your information kept private you must file a disclosure notice before April 30, 2010.

To learn more about your rights to information and privacy regarding adoption, visit www.hss.gov.yk.ca/adoptioninfo or call 1-867-667-3002.





16 world

NASA won't give up yet on Mars rover

NASA said Thursday it will continue to run tests to see if it can fix a faulty wheel on the Mars rover Spirit that is complicating efforts to free it from a sand trap where it has been stuck for the past eight months. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Geithner defends bailout

U.S. Treasury Secretary says ending program 'irresponsible'

U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner told a skeptical watchdog panel Thursday that the Obama administration's decision to keep the government's unpopular bank bailout program going until October was a necessary "limit-ed, qualified extension."

"It would be irresponsible to do otherwise," Geithner said

Public anger

• The U.S. bailout program has fuelled public anger against a perceived govern-ment bias for Wall Street over Main Street.

The Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) was due to go out of business at the end of this month. But Geithner said Wednesday

it would run through October, as the original legisla-

tion allowed. Elizabeth Warren, who heads the independent oversight panel that Congress set up to monitor the bailout program, said the aid was "an important part of the government's rescue strategy" and saved the financial system from "imminent collapse.

But the law professor told Geithner it "has been far from an unmitigated success." She said consumers and small businesses are still having trouble obtaining loans even if big banks are getting back on

their feet because of it. Geithner said the government is committed to shutting down the pro-THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nobel Boyle gets his award



Nova Scotian and part-time Halifax resident Dr. Williard S. Boyle, left, receives the Nobel Prize in Physics from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden during the Nobel prize award ceremony Thursday at the Stockholm Concert Hall in Stockholm, Sweden. American George E. Smith shared the physics award with Boyle for inventing a sensor used in digital cameras.

Obama's envoy reports mixed results in N. Korea

NUCLEAR U.S. President Barack Obama's envoy to North Korea said Thursday that his trip to Pyongyang yielded a common understanding on the need to restart nuclear disarmament talks — but no clear time frame on when the regime might return to the negotiations.

Stephen Bosworth spent three days in the North Korean capital for the Obama administration's first high-level talks with Pyongyang after months of nuclear defiance and threatening rhetoric from the regime.

Bosworth and his delegation flew to Pyongyang with a clear mission: To coax North Korea to return to the six-nation disarmament talks the regime walked away from this year.

He reported mixed results. Discussions were candid, yet it "remains to be seen when and how the DPRK will return to the sixparty talks," he told a Seoul news conference.

The visit did not include a meeting with leader Kim Jong Il. Kim was busy inspecting a farm and a tractor factory north of Pyongyang during that time, the official Korean Central News Agency said.

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News in brief

costco Coca-Cola Co. products will soon be available again in Costco stores in the U.S. now that a pricing dispute with the wholesale club operator has been settled. Last month, Costco decided not to

order any more Coca-Cola products until the squabble was resolved. The retailer made the dispute unusually public, posting messages in stores nationwide and online

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Six-month report card for NDP



ova Scotia's new New Democratic Party govern-ment isn't so new anymore. Late next week, it will have been in office six months. How well has it performed?

At one level, the answer would have to be very well. Darrell Dexter's government has demonstrated a level of calming, policy wonkish competence sadly lacking during the chaotic, what-shall-we-pave-today reign of former Tory pre-

mier Rodney MacDonald. The NDP clearly learned by watching the endless parade of do-as-we-didn't Torv gaffes. Even when the new government's ministers momentarily forget themselves — Deputy Premier Frank Corbett's big-whopper \$441.48 restaurant bill comes to mind - it has been wise enough to apologize ("I screwed up and it won't happen again") and move on. Ernie Fage? Compare and contrast. I rest my

The government has also made progress in eliminating the most outrageous entitlements — fees for chairing committees that chairing committees that didn't meet, peddling tax-payer-bought office furni-ture for personal gain — of which too many of our elected officials believed they were entitled.

On the other hand, it must be said the New Democrats have broken — or will break - every important election promise they made during last spring's campaign.

Such blatant backsliding would normally lead to howls of voter outrage, but the NDP's popularity re-mains high. That's probably because we, as voters, never expected them to keep those promises. We would have been angrier if they had, especially after this fall's sobering economic analysis from experts the government hired to get it off the hook it had created for itself.
For me, however, the

most troubling blemish on the NDP's early record is how easily it seems to have slipped into playing Nova Scotia politics-as-usual on appointments and govern-

ment spending decisions. The NDP recently used its majority on the all-party human resources committee, for example, to keep MLAs — and the public — from finding out about all candidates being considered for appointments to provincial boards and commissions. While in opposition, the party led the fight to make that process more open and transparent. And last week the NDP's

Cumberland South riding president and former candidate resigned because he says the government is playing "old-style politics" on the location of a new provincial jail. The Tories had promised two jails arguably old-style politics, too — but the NDP can-celled those, and now plans to build just one to save money.

Intriguingly, allnovascotia.com reports Justice Min-ister Ross Landry's home riding is the "leading contender" as home to the new institution.

Those are not good omens so early in their

Stephen Kimber, the Rogers Communica-tions Chair in Journalism at the University of Kings College, is the author of eight books.

Views

Not such a rosy picture for aboriginals



Bernd Christmas

Poverty is a fact of life facing many Aboriginal Peoples in Canada.

The UN recently ranked Canada fourth on its quality of life ranking and paints a rosy picture. Officially called the Human Development Index, it measures certain criteria to get a snapshot of a country's quality of life.

Let's look at this from the perspective of the aboriginal community in Canada. Statistics show the aboriginal infant mortality rate is 1½ times higher than the Canadian infant mortality rate. An aboriginal man will die 7.4 years earlier than a non-aboriginal Canadian. An aboriginal woman will die 5.2 years earlier than her non-aboriginal counter-

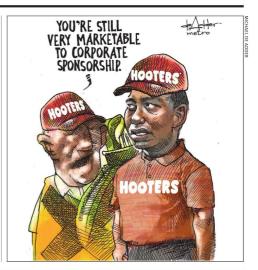
Unbelievably, 70 per cent of aboriginal students onreserve will never complete high school. Graduation rates for the on-reserve population range from 28.9 to 32.1 per cent annually. to 32.1 per cent annually. About 27 per cent of the aboriginal population between 15 and 44 years of age hold a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree, compared with 46 per cent of the Canadian population within the same age group.
On economic terms, un-

employment rates for all aboriginal groups continue to be at least double the rate of the non-aboriginal population. About 80 per cent have incomes below \$30,000 per year.

Statistics on the health of Aboriginal Peoples is grim. The suicide rate is more than twice the Canadian rate and is now among the leading causes of death among aboriginal youth be-tween the ages of 10 and 24, with the rate estimated to be five to six times higher than that of non-aboriginal vouth. Diabetes is at least three times the national av-

It's wonderful that Canada is held in such high regard by others, but once you start to peel back the layers, an uglier picture emerges ... Aboriginal Peoples' poverty.

Bernd Christmas is a Mi'kmaq lawyer practising aboriginal and corporate law www. berndchristmaslawgroup.com



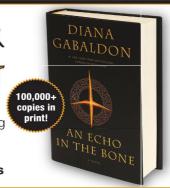
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Toyota plans to hire 800 people

In another sign that conditions in the Canadian auto industry are improving, Toyota Canada plans to hire 800 more people at its plant in the southern Ontario town of Woodstock. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Business in brief

BAILOUT Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner told a skentical watchdog panel Thursday that the Obama

administration's decision to keep the government's unpopular bank bailout program going until October was a neces sary "limited, qualified exten-THE ASSOCIATED PRESS **REVENUE** Lululemon Athletica Inc. is at peace with its optimistic outlook for the holiday shopping season, following a 30 per cent revenue spike this fall as cash-stranged consumers continued to scoop up its pricey yoga wear. The maker of activewear reported a profit of \$14.1 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stability threatened, says Bank on Canada

Conditions improved, but debt risk: Review

Mounting governmental and household debt are posing new risks to the stability of financial systems, the Bank of Cana-da said Thursday in its most recent analysis.

The central bank's semi-annual "Financial System Review" finds that overall conditions have improved in the short term since it last reported in June.

But it adds that recordhigh debt by Canadian households pose an elevated medium-term risk if a second financial or economic shock were to materialize. Bank of Canada gover-

nor Mark Carney has

m.metrenews.ca

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warned in the past about Canadians getting in over their heads with large commitments mortgage that don't appear problem-atic given today's low interest rates.

The bank repeats the warning in its systems re-view, stressing that rates aren't going to remain at

historic lows forever and mortgage payments will rise. This is both a potential problem for households and banks, the report states.
"When borrowing funds,

especially in the form of mortgages, households need to assess their ability to service these debt obligations over their entire maturity, taking into account likely changes in both income and interest rates," the report stresses.

And the bank says lenders should be careful about extending mortgage loans even if they are in-

THE CANADIAN PRESS





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CIT Group Inc. shares jumped Thursday in the U.S. lender's first day of trading after emerging from bankruptcy protection. Shares rose \$2.39, or 9.4 per cent, to \$27.89 in morning trading. The shares opened at \$25.50. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

business 21

Manulife expands in China

Manulife Financial announced Thursday it has expanded its presence in China yet again.

Manulife-Sinochem Life Insurance Co., a joint venture led by the Canadian insurance company, has received approval to operate in the city of Jinhua and was given licences for five satellite offices in three provinces.

The joint venture of Manulife and the China Foreign Economic and Trade Trust & Investment Company is now licensed in 39 Chinese cities.

Manulife said the new insurance licences were granted shortly after Prime Minister Stephen Harper's recent trip to the country.

recent trip to the country.

"We are grateful for the continued strong support from our excellent Chinese partners and from the Canadian and Chinese governments as we continue to expand our presence in this very important and fast growing insurance and wealth and asset management market," said Donald Guloien, Manulife's president and chief executive officer.



Donald Guloien. Manulife's president and chief executive.

Jinhua, with a population of 4.6 million, is a communications centre in southeast China and is one of the major hubs of land transportation in the country.

try.

The five satellite offices are in the Fujian province, the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone and the Zhejiang province.

"The granting of these six new licences is a very welcome step forward for Manulife-Sinochem as we continue to expand to serve China's fast growing insurance needs," said Manulife-Sinochem chairman Marc Sterling.

Manulife-Sinochem currently has more than 11,000 staff and agents

serving over 450,000 customers across China.

In mid-November, Manulife announced it was growing its Chinese operations with a deal to buy Fortis Bank's 49 per cent interest in China-based ABN AMRO TEDA Fund Management Co. for \$156 million US.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

U.S. ARMY The U.S. army has awarded contracts worth \$5.7 million to OSI Geospatial Inc., an Ottawa-based company whose technology integrates live visual data with any combination of sensor data, imagery, maps and charts. The Ottawa-based company says it will provide engineering, training and support services to the army and expects to see about \$1.9 million in revenue annually for the next three years.

CANCER DRUGS Critical Outcome Technologies, a pharmaceutical company focused on cancer drugs, said it lost \$976,678 or two cents a share in the quarter ended Oct. 31 due to increased expenses, compared with a loss of \$725,002 a year earlier. Shares of the company dipped two cents to 38 cents on the TSX Venture market in midday trading Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN THE MATTER OF the Companies Act, R.S.N.S. 1989 -and-

IN THE MATTER OF an application of DRS CONTRACTING LIMITED for leave to surrender its Certificate of Incorporation

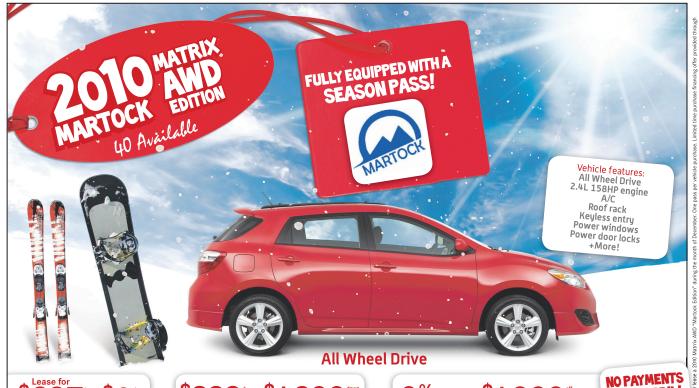
NOTICE is hereby given that DRS CONTRACTING LIMITED will make an application to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies for leave to surrender its Certificate of Incorporation.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 8th day of December, 2009.

BURCHELL HAYMAN PARISH

Per:_

DENNY L. PICKUP 1800-1801 Hollis Street Halifax, NS B3J 3N4 Solicitor For **DRS CONTRACTING LIMITED**



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Don MacAdam is out as head coach and team president of the Lewiston Maineiacs. The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League team announced the dismissal Thursday. Assistant coach Jamie Dumont was also let go. The Maineiacs have lost 14 games in a row. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports



NHL keen on Quebec City?

Quebec's premier says he is now confident the NHL is keen on bringing a team back to Quebec City. Jean Charest said he discussed premier says Bettman seemed sincerely interested in bringing pro hockey back to the provincial capital. THE CANADIAN PRE

Rewarded for their efforts

After a horrendous start, the Mooseheads have looked much better of late

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

It's no where close to the 20-straight wins the Saint John Sea Dogs are currently enjoying, but the rebuilding Halifax Mooseheads have been playing some pretty decent hockey of late.

After starting the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League season a woeful 1-18-1, Halifax has gone 6-5-1 in its last 12 games. Put it together, and the suddenly respectable-looking Mooseheads are giving fans reason for optimism and making a push for the playoffs a real possibility.

"The effort has been there all along, but now it just seems like we're get-ting rewarded for it," said Mooseheads coach and general manager Cam Russell, whose team is seven points behind the Baie-. Comeau Drakkar for the fi-

Bishop joins the Herd

• The Halifax Mooseheads should sport a new face in the lineup this weekend as 16-year-old blueliner lamie Bishop has been called up to the team. Bishop, the team's second-round draft pick from last June's midget draft, had been playing

this season for the Saint Brunswick Midget AAA Hockey League, A spot opened up for Bishop when the team recently traded 20-vear-old blue-liner Alexandre Brunet to the Rouvn-Noranda Huskies.

nal playoff spot. "(Goaltender Mathieu) Corbeil is playing good hockey and we've got secondary scoring now. Before (Tomas) Knotek's line was doing probably 50 per cent of the scoring. It's nice to see the other lines are scoring as well."

The stellar play of Corbeil over the last five weeks has been arguably the biggest reason for the team's improved results.

Since Nov. 1, the 18-yearold netminder has gone 6-5, with a 2.30 goals against average and a .927 save percentage. After a shakv first two months, Čorbeil has clearly established himself now as the team's No. 1 netmin-

"It's huge. If you're going to have any success at all as a team, you're going to need solid goaltending," Russell said.

Mathieu Corbeil

"He's definitely been playing better, but you're also seeing a better overall effort defensively with our defence and our forwards."

The Mooseheads will need that to

continue

host the

as

and the Prince Edward Island Rocket Saturday (7 p.m. start times). Both Atlantic Division ri-

Moncton Wildcats Friday

vals have talented rosters and should be a handful for the youthful Moose.

'We realize we're going to be overmatched against some hockey teams, but we know if we play a certain brand of hocky — a physi-cal, respon-sible hock-

teams.

ey game have success, even against the good hockey

Central Scouting Challenge, the Top Prospects Presentation or even the Annual Entry Draft, only to later report to the team that drafted them, the league said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Skyscraper confident he can stand tall for Rainmen

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

BASKETBALL He's $named \ Skyscraper -- \ and$ for good reason.

Newly acquired centre Shagari Alleyne has arrived and yesterday was on hand at a morning press conference for the Halifax Rainmen, where it was announced the Premier Basketball League team will be shown live for six games this season on East-

At seven-foot-three, Alleyne is a towering individual — and clearly stood out amongst those gathered at

the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame

But the question remains whether he can stand out on the court for Halifax. For his

part, the 25-yearold feels he has skill and game to be an impact player here. "I run the floor

pretty well score. I block and shots rebound" said Alwho is Shagari Alleyne levne, from the Bronx,

N.Y, and is in Halifax for the first time. "I do what a centre is supposed to do."

Alleyne was signed by

the Rainmen on Tuesday after failing to stick with the Albuquerque Thunderbirds of the NBA's Develop-

ment League. Alleyne, who played NCAA Division 1 basketball for University of Kentucky, is the second of two big men signed this week by Halifax.

On Monday, the Rainmen inked sixfoot-11 centre Mark McCarroll, who has played professionally with several teams in

Europe.

McCarroll and Alleyne should fight it out for the starting centre position in

Rainmen on TV

The Halifax Rainmen and EastLink TV announced a six-game partnership for the 2009-10 Premier Basketball League season that sees one pre-season and five regular season games shown live. The exhibition game is Dec.

19 against the Manchester Millrats. The first regular season broadcast is the club's home opener against the Quebec Kebs on Jan. 10 at 2 p.m. All regular season broadcasts will be on Sundays.

training camp - competition Alleyne welcomes.

"Every basketball player wants to be a starter – if you come off the bench, that's good as well," said Alleyne, who wears a size 22 shoe and has an eightfoot wingspan.

"But I feel I can contribute heavily to this team.

Alleyne played last season with the Harlem Globetrotters, and the year before tried out for the Philadelphia 76ers. He didn't make the NBA club.

Q to punish teams for corrupt draft practices оминь The Quebec Maior

Junior Hockey League will punish teams with a fine of up to \$100,000 and loss of draft picks for two years under new measures aimed at eliminating "unlawful draft practices.

The sanctions were announced Thursday by commissioner Gilles Courteau, who said some draft-eligible players in recent years have avoided showcase events at the behest of some teams in attempt to influence where they are chosen.

"A team that drafts a player has the right to expect that it is acquiring his services without any interference from other clubs,' Courteau said in a release.

Several players have refused to attend the QMJHL

Sports in brief

LIONS The Halifax Lions took it on the chin Thursday night. Trevor Carmichael and Steven Brazil each scored twice as the Summerside Western Capitals blasted the Lions 9-2 in Maritime Junior A Hockey League action before 267 fans at the Halifax Forum, Stuart Lenehan and Brad MacDonald replied for the Lions, who surrendered three goals in each METRO HALIFAX period.

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Sports updates on your smartphone. Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3



Enter online to win season's tickets to the Mooseheads!





Coach Kelly heads to Notre Dame

Notre Dame has settled on Brian Kelly as the man who can restore its faded glory, just as he turned Cincinnati into a national title contender. The 47-year-old Kelly was 34-6 in three seasons at Cincinnati. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sports 23

Jones' rink out of running

CURLING Two teams have clinched their spots in the playoff round at the women's Canadian Olympic curling trials and three others will take to the ice Friday as part of a tiebreaker.

Jennifer Jones, however,

won't be among them. Jones, who came to Edmonton a favourite to earn the right to represent her country at the 2010 Olympics, missed the playoff stage by ending the trials Thursday just as she began them — with a whim-

Iones was on the wrong end of a 10-9 decision to 2006 Olympic bronze medallist Shannon Kleibrink and closed out the tournament with a 2-5 record.

Yeah I want to go to the Olympics, and so I think does every Canadian, but you can't sometimes make things happen." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Woods scandal sparks surge in web traffic

GOLF The Tiger Woods drama has triggered a spike in traffic to websites offering details of his Thanksgiving weekend car crash and his alleged extramarital affairs.

One of the most heavily trafficked sites has been Woods' own site, where he has posted his only public comments about his crash and admitted to "transgressions." The site got 488,000 unique visitors the week of his crash, up from fewer than 11,000 the week before, according to The Nielsen Co.

The Orlando Sentinel, which serves the area of Woods' home, scored about 1.2 million unique visitors the week of the crash, more than two times the number of visitors the week before, Nielsen said. Meanwhile, visits to the entertainment site TMZ.com and sports news site Deadspin.com, which both had scoops on the Woods story, were up more than 50 per cent, according to Hitwise, another web analysis firm.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
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Boston 5 Toronto 2
Nashville 4 Columbus 3 (50)
Pittsburgh 3 Montreal 2
Atlanta at Vancouver
Phoenix at Los Angeles

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Boston 104 Washington 102
Detroit 1010 Denwer 99
Orlando at Utlah
For games results, visit metronews.ca/sports

What's in a Canadian flag-bearer?



nd so the speculation begins. Who will carry the Maple Leaf \ into the stadium when the Olympics open in Vancouver? This question preoccupies the musings of many Canadians every time the Games roll around because the subject of who will carry our flag prompts vastly differ-ent responses, all of which are laced with tremendous passion. The stakes are even higher because these are our home Olympics.

Some feel that the right and privilege of carrying the flag is an opportunity not to be denied — not even if the task interferes with preparation for imminent competition. Stellar athletes who declined for such reasons in 2006 at Torino were, at times, publicly ridiculed and found themselves having to defend their choices.

teristics necessary in a flag-bearer. Not only does the athlete have to be of substance on ...

represent

this country aims to reflect its diversity in the person who bears the standard. Therefore, linguistic, racial and gender equality issues are considered.

Strangely, in a country in love with hockey, our

will garner much of the nation's attention are deemed by many to be in-

eligible be-cause they the field of "This country aims play, he or she has to to reflect its profesare sionals diversity in the sort of like the goodness of Canada. In addition, person who bears the standard." invited guests at the Games.

It's too bad because the charitable Jarome Iginla, a veteran of three Olympics who scored twice in the gold-medal game in Salt Lake City, might be a great choice. So would Martin Brodeur, the most prolific goalie of all time

fourth Olympics.

No, it seems Canada's flag-bearer must be an Olympian first and foremost. The job has to go to someone who has lived the Olympic life.

Without naming names, there are so many fine Canadians to assume this position. By now we should all know who they are because when the time comes they will be representing all of us.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.



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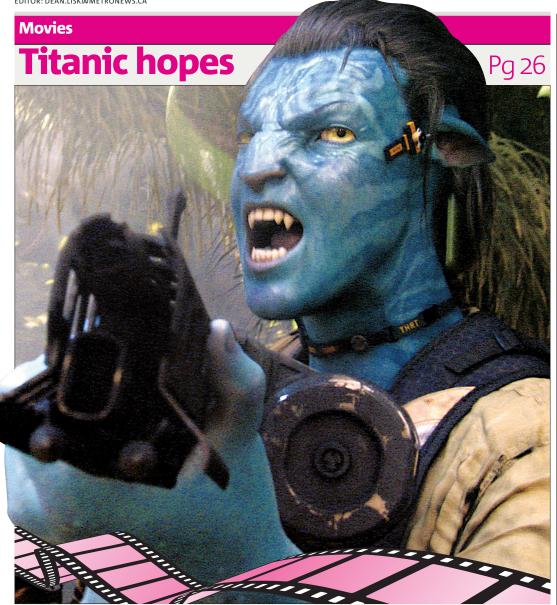
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Visit Metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, read reviews and watch trailers.

Movies&Entertainment



It's been a long time, but James Cameron — of Aliens, Terminator and Titanic fame — is back with his latest movie, Avatar.



Freeman and Damon shine in Eastwood's Invictus.



Jared Leto dishes on 30 Seconds to Mars' latest album.



Friday Night Lights among the top shows of the decade.



At a glance

Invictus 🕮 🍩 The Princess and The Frog 🝩 🕮 ¾, Me and Orson Welles 🖦 Bad Lieutenant 🖦 🖦

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Cameron crunch time

Will Avatar's huge budget and hype sink it?

Movie **feature**

A colossal budget, visionary technology and a down-to-the-wire workload on a film whose fortunes are a real question mark.

James Cameron has been here before on little ditties called Terminator 2: Judgment Day and Titanic. In case anyone's forgotten how that worked out for him, Titanic stacked up 11 Academy Awards, best picture and director among them, and a record \$1.8 billion worldwide at the box office.

This time, the Ontarioborn filmmaker's vision is riding on Avatar, a science-

On the web

• For movie photos, trailers and screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies.

fiction epic aiming to push the bounds of digital filmmaking and 3-D presentation into the heavens, with a reported price tag well in excess of the \$200 million spent to make Titanic.

Will audiences come along? Cameron thinks so.

"It's hard for me to imagine that short of some massive marketing debacle, that it's not going to work for people. I mean, we may not have a kind of slamdunk opening weekend that settles the whole case. I don't think the case is going to be settled until week two or maybe week three," Cameron said only days after completing Avatar, just in time for its world-

wide blowout next week.

"Let's face it. It wasn't settled on Titanic till week 10. Titanic was the No. 1 picture for 16 weeks. I don't expect that kind of performance out of Avatar."

Cameron will not divulge what he does expect out of Avatar, wisecracking that if we announce the sequel, then we hit the numher

The director, who had a \$200 million smash on Terminator 2 and hits on Aliens and True Lies, has kept fans waiting a long time. Though he's been busy producing, making the underwater 3-D documentaries Ghosts of the Abyss

Ontario-born director James Cameron has plenty riding on his new sci-fi epic Avatar.

and Aliens of the Deep and developing the tech-veloping the tech-veloping the science fiction and fant sy have gone mainstreal

this marks his first narrative film since Titanic 12 years ago.
Cameron's reputation and a mammoth marketing push by distributor 20th Century Fox virtually guarantee hit status for Avatar. Still, in this blockbuster age, there are hits and there are HITS. The question is whether Avatar can climb to the \$300 million or \$400

million level of such fran-

chises as Star Wars. The

Lord of the Rings and Spi-

nology for Avatar,

Some factors in its favour:
• Science-fiction and fantasy have gone mainstream
in a huge way since
Cameron's last foray in
the field.

• Now that cartoon hits have built fan appetite for digital 3-D films, Avatar is Hollywood's big test for the future of live-action movies in three dimensions. Avatar in 3-D will bring in about \$4 to \$5 a ticket more than the 2-D version.

• Cameron's a franchise unto himself even when he doesn't score a runaway hit (The Abyss).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS







Spielberg up for sound award

Steven Spielberg has landed the Motion Picture Sound Editors' (MPSE) 2010 Filmmaker Award. The E.T. director will be honoured at next year's MPSE's Golden Reel awards ceremony held on Feb. 20. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK



Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR



Disney returns to its roots with The Princess and The Frog.

Princess timeless fairy tale

The Princess and **The Frog**

NED EHRBAR Metro World News

REVIEW It took nearly 15 years and several misfires for Disney to realize what made their animated movie musicals special, but luckily they did, as The Princess and The Frog proves. The ironic part was that it took CGI king John Lasseter to champion a return to the animation studio's roots.

In The Princess and the Frog, there's no winking irony, no out-of-place pop culture references and no rapping grannies.

rapping grannies. What's there instead is a beautifully inventive take on a classic fairy tale full of music that pays homage to the film's New Orleans setting while still fitting in the classic Disney vein. The fact that Randy Newman wrote the songs but opted not to sing them himself probably helps a great deal.

The animation featured is a return to form for Disney, making the film feel timeless right out of the gate. The elephant in the room — that the film feature's Disney's first African-American princess — becomes a non-issue so quickly it's ridiculous.

A lot of that probably has to do with the fact that our heroine, Tiana, spends much of the movie as a frog herself, but every aspect of the story is handled so artfully that anyone attempting to ascribe political meaning to anything in it would only make themselves seem foolish.

• For a trailer of The Princess and The Frog, photos and screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies

Invictus stars on top of game

Invictus

Director: Clint Eastwood
Stars: Matt Damon, Morgan
Freeman

Classification: PG Rating: @@@@

NED EHRBAR Metro World News

The main joy of Invictus is watching Morgan Freeman finally, at long last, play Nelson Mandela, a role it was assumed would eventually end up on his resume.

But instead of a longplanned adaptation of Mandela's autobiography, director Clint Eastwood has brought to the screen the story of 1995 Rugby World Cup, held in South Africa, and Mandela's effort to use the event to unite an apartheid-scarred nation.

That Freeman excels as Mandela is really no surprise, but it is fun to watch. The real surprise here is Matt Damon, as rugby cap-



Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon star in Clint Eastwood's Invictus

tain Francois Pienaar, who turns in a startlingly effecting performance.

Good as the leads are, the rugby itself unfortunately gets in the way. As the sport

BAYERS LAKE

is more than likely a big unfamiliar to North American audiences, much effort is made to explain the basics of the game.

Some of these are seam-

less within the story, such as actual coaching sessions the team held in the townships as an outreach effort. Others, such as one security guard asking another straight-forward questions about scoring and gameplay, feel far too clumsy especially in a film that handles so many other complex story aspects so artfully.

The big final match against New Zealand, the film's climax, is played out almost in real time, point by point, leaving Mandela a spectator in his own story as Pienaar's men take the field and wordlessly fight for their nation's honour.

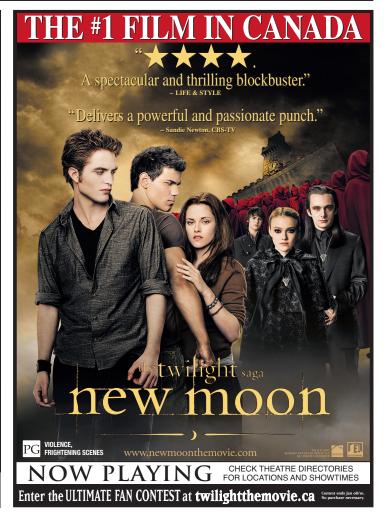
Aside from taking up way too much of the film's time, the game also suffers from too much slow motion, which is what ultimately keeps the film from being a true success.

Whether the audience knows the outcome of the famous game or not, the filmmakers take so long getting to the final whistle that it's hard to care when they do.

 For a trailer of Invictus, photos and screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies



NOW PLAYING!



It's not the most obvious of face-offs but Wife Vs. Ninja is set for the screen with DreamWorks. This is the story of a Long Island housewife whose scientist husband leaves her for a young intern, who is in fact a ninja assassin. EMPIREONLINE.COM

Reel Time

●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

MacKay towers as Welles Lieutenant unusual

Me and Orson Welles

Director: Richard Linklater Stars: Zac Efron, Christian MacKay, Claire Danes Classification: STC Rating: 🕮 🅮

PHIL BROWN for Metro Canada

Caesar.

Sometimes one performance can save an entire film. Take Me And Orson Welles, a fairly bland coming age story set against the backdrop of Orson Welles' infamous 1937 production of Julius

The movie is featherweight and predictable, but bursts to life every time Christian McKay appears on screen as Orson Welles.

McKay's performance transcends impersonation to completely capture the complex personality of a young Welles at the peak of his powers and director Richard Linklater (Waking Life) is clever enough to shade in all of Welles' flaws just as carefully as his prestigious talents.

It's easily the best representation of Welles ever captured on screen, but unfortunately -- the film that surrounds the towering performance doesn't quite compare.

The main problem with the movie is that it centres



Zac Efron and Claire Danes star in Me and Orson Welles.

on Teen Beat coverboy Zac Efron rather than Welles.

The High School: The Musical star plays an ambitious teen who stumbles into a small role in Caesar. Much of the film is about Efron learning hard life lessons from Welles, the cast, and a promiscuous production assistant played by Claire Danes

Efron's limited range as an actor is stretched to the breaking point in a pretty undemanding role. The

script does capture the youthful joy of being involved with the arts reasonably well, but without Orson Welles this would have been a made-for-TV movie at best.

Fortunately Richard Lin-klater rushes through the plot to spend as much time as possible with McKay's Welles, vividly recreating his expressionistic take on Julius Caesar and filling every scene with subtle details about Welles' early life

(such as his use of off-duty ambulances to race around New York).

It's unfortunate that the director didn't just make a film about this era of Welles' life with Christian McKay as the star, because it could have been an interesting bio-pic.

As it stands, Me And Orson Welles is merely a pleasant movie featuring one astounding performance destined for awards recogni-

Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans

Director: Werner Herzog Stars: Nicolas Cage Classification: STC Rating: @@@@@

CHRIS ALEXANDER for Metro Canada

REVIEW The big screen marriage of Hollywood heavy-weight Nicolas Cage and German arthouse eccentric Werner Herzog may seem odd on paper, but the final product is even odder, a joyous wallow in pulp excess that stands alone.

Borrowing part of the name and theme of Abel Ferrara's bizarro 1992 existential exploitation film (that boasted the most unhinged and hair raising of Harvey Keitel's performances), Herzog's Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans is hypnotic, violent and occasionally, laugh out loud hilarious.

Cage stars as Lt. Terence McDonagh, a cop who already treads the line of corruption and bad taste until a horrific drug-related massacre — and a bout of agonizing back pain sends him spiraling into a vortex of substance-soaked self medication and generally hideous, antisocial behavior

Although on the surface, Bad Lieutenant may seem like Herzog lite, the very fact that film is trying to



Nicolas Cage plays a cop on a rampage in Bad Lieutenant.

pass itself off as something even marginally main-stream makes it perhaps the most offbeat work in the director's oeuvre.

The movie is certainly filled with that meditative eeriness, that tongue-in-cheek depravity and uncomfortable beauty that defines the best of Herzog (think Aguirre: The Wrath of God or Woyzeck) but watching the filmmaker trying to squeeze those sensibilities into a conventional thriller model is nothing short of dizzying and will no doubt prove trying to tamer viewers.

Those cynical cineastes who have written off Cage as a blockbuster baiting hack need to go back into the vaults and revisit the actors defining, early work. Fare like Vampire's Kiss, David Lynch's Wild at Heart and Raising Arizona showed that when a filmmaker gives Cage the right material, he can burn the screen up with operatic aplomb, riffing maniacally like a cacophonic jazzman.



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We wish to thank everyone who made Homes for the Holidays 2009 a resounding success!

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This week's new releases are highlighted in pink

Screen Times

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HALIFAX

BAYERS LAKE 190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake 902-876-4800

2012 (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seat ing Fri-Thu 12:35-4:10-7:40

Armored (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadi um Seating Fri-Tue 1:20-4:10-7:15-9:55 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Wed 1:20-4:10-9:55 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 1:20-4:10-7:15-9:55

Avatar 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 11:59 **Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call** New Orleans (14) Dolby Stereo. Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:05-9:50

The Blind Side (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 12:40-3:40 6:40-9:40 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Wed 3:40-6:40-9:40 Dolby Stereo. Stadium Seating Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40

The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:05-4:15-7:15-

Brothers (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15 Dave Matthews Band 3D (STC) No Passes, Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri-Wed 1:15-4-7:15-10:05 No Passes, Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Thu 1:15-4-7:15-9:55

Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seat ing Fri-Thu 1:20-4:15-7:20-9:55

Everybody's Fine (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:45-9:30 Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55-3:30-6:40-9:15

Invictus (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 12:35-3:45-6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Wed 3:45-6:45-9:45 Dol-by Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 12:35-3:45-6:45-9:45

Ninja Assassin (18) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:20-4:15-7:20-9:50

Old Dogs (G) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu

Planet 51 (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:30-9

The Princess and the Frog (G) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seat ing Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:30

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:30-12:50-3:30-3:55-6:40-6:50-9:30-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sun 12:30-12:50-3:30 3:55-6:40-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium eating Mon 12:30-12:50-3:30-3:55-6:40-9:30-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 12:30-12:50-3:30-3:55 6:40-6:50-9:30-9:45

WWE: Tables, Ladders & Chairs 2009 (STC) Dolby Stereo, No. Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 9

IMAX

190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake 902-876-4800

Avatar: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 11:59

Disney's A Christmas Carol: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri-Wed 12:50-3:45-7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Thu 12:50-3:45-7-9:20

> **OXFORD THEATRE** 6408 Quinpool Rd. 902-423-7488

The Road (STC) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Tue 7-9:30 Wed 9:45 Thu 7-9:30

PARK LANE 5657 Spring Garden Rd.

902-423-4860 2012 (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-

Sun 12:50-4:15-7:30-11 Stadi-um Seating Mon-Thu 4:15-7:30-

Antichrist (STC) Stadium Seating

The Blind Side (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:30-3:30-6:20-9:10-11:40 Stadium Seat ing Sun 12:30-3:30-6:20visit bowlarama.ca or call 453-BOWL (2695) for details

9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:30-6:20-9:10 Brothers (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10-

Fantastic Mr. Fox

(PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:20-3:45-6:50-9-11:30 Stadium Seating Sun 1:20-3:45-6:50-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-9

Invictus (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:20-3:20-6:30-9:30 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon 3:20 6:30-9:30 No Passes, Stadium Seating Tue 3:20-9:45 No Passes, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 3:20-6:30-9:30

It Might Get Loud (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 11:59

Me and Orson Welles (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-3:50-7-9:40 Sta-dium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-7-9:40

Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:30-4-6:40-9:20-11:45 Stadium Seating Sun 1:30-4-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4 6:40-9:20

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:35 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-6:45-9:35

LOWER SACKVILLE

LOWER SACKVILLE 760 Sackville Dr., Downsview Plaza 902-869-2022

Armored (14) Stadium Seating Fri 7:15-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat 1:15-3:50-7:15-9:40 Stadium Seating Sun 1:15-3:50-6:50-9 Stadium Seating Mon-

The Blind Side (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:20-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:20-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:20-9:10

Brothers (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:15 Stadium Seating Sat 1:20-4-6:50-9:15 Stadium Seating Sun 1:20-4-6:40-9:05 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:05

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9 Stadium Seating Sat 12:50-3:10-6:40-9 Stadium Seating Sun 12:50-3:10-6:40-8:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-8:50

Old Dogs (G) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat 1-3:15 7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Sun 1-3:15-7-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:20 The Princess and the Frog (G)

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The Blind Side (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Wed 3:40-6:40-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:45

Brothers (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:35-9:20

Dave Matthews Band 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4-6:30-0

Disney's A Christmas Carol (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:20-9:50

Everybody's Fine (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 4-6:45-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 3:40-6:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-6:45-9:35

Invictus (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:10-3:10-6:20-9:30 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating 12:10-3:10-10

Old Dogs (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:30-

Planet 51 (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55

The Princess and PARTY WITH US! the Fro



Disney's newest feature-length film The Princess and The Frog opens today across the country. The movie marks the first time Disney has featured an African-American princess

Armored (14) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat 2:50-7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating Sun 2:50-6:30-8:35 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-8:35 **The Blind**

Side (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:30 Dol-

by Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 2:30-6:40-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital. Stadium Seating Sun 2:30-6:10-8:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:10-8:45

Brothers (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:45 Stadium Seating Sat 2:40-6:50-9:45 Stadium Seating Sun 2:40-6:20-8:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:20-8:30

Old Dogs (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:20-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3-7:20-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 3-7:10-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10

The Princess and the Frog (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 7-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digi tal, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 3:30-7-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun 2-7-9:10

Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 7-9:10

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Sta-dium Seating Fri 6:30-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 2:20-6:30-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 2:20-6-8:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-

BRIDGEWATER

BRIDGEWATER 349 Lahave St., 902-527-4020

2012 (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat 2:25-7:30 Sun 2:25-6:45 Mon-Thu 6:45

The Blind Side (PG) Fri 6:40-9:30 Sat 2:20-6:40-9:30 Sun 2:20-5:55-8:45 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:45

Brothers (14) Fri 6:50-9:15 Sat 2:30-6:50-9:15 Sun 2:30-6:05-8:30 Mon-Thu

Ninja Assassin (18) Fri-Sat 7:10-9:35 Sun-Thu 6:25-8:50

Old Dogs (G) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat 2:50-7:20-9:40 Sun 2:50-6:35-8:55 Mon-Thu 6:35-8:55

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9:20 No Passes Sun 2-6:15-8:35 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:15-8:35 The Twilight Saga: New

Moon (PG) Fri 6:30-9:25 Sat 2:10-6:30-9:25 Sun 2:10-5:45-8:40 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:40

Seating, No Passes Fri 7-9:25 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 1:10-3:25-7-9:25 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun 1:10 3:25-7-9:15 Stadium Seating, No Passes

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45

3:40-6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9:20

DARTMOUTH

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2012 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-3:45-7:35 Armored (14) Dolby Stereo Digital Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:10 7:10-9:40

Avatar 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu

(G) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4-7-9:25 The Road (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital. Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:35-6:25

9:10 The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-6:50

WWE: Tables, Ladders & Chairs 2009 (STC) Dolby Stereo Dig ital, Stadium Seating Sun 9

TRURO

TRURO 20 Treaty Trail, Millbrook 902-895-8020

2012 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 2:10-7:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 2:10-7:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:20



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Billboard's top albums

1. I Dreamed a Dream, Susan Boyle; 2. My Christmas, Andrea Bocelli; 3. Fearless (Platinum Edition), Taylor Swift; 4. Untitled, R. Kelly; 5. The Fame, Lady Gaga. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Jared Leto goes to war The best of 2009

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI for Metro Canada

Jared Leto might be a famous actor and platinum-selling musician, but even he has major record label headaches to deal with. In August last year, EMI sued Leto's band, 30 Seconds to Mars, for breach of contract.

Yet, the band re-signed with EMI before releasing their latest disc, This is War. 'We want to be treated fairly," Leto tells Metro over the phone from Los Angeles. "We did get to a place where EMI addressed the concerns we were fighting

Still, it may seem a bit odd that the group would sign to any big label after all the trouble the majors gave the group. The band does have a massive following, so why not go the Radiohead route?

"We looked at what other bands did," he says. "But Radiohead is now being dis-



This is War is the latest album from 30 Seconds to Mars, which features actor Jared Leto, left.

tributed through a major. I started looking at the options and the reality is we're in a transition time right now. Being DIY still leaves the band having to do what it really doesn't want to, which is running a record company."

Leaving all the grunt work to EMI allowed the group to try something completely different on their new record. Dubbed The Summit, the group went to several places around the world to record fans playing instruments and singing to their new songs — some of these recordings ended up on the release.

"People did everything from percussion to singing to chanting and stomping, Leto explains.

Working this into their songs wasn't easy. Leto had to plan for these recordings, even though he didn't know how they would turn out, while he was writing the album.

The result is a louder. more epic 30 Seconds to Mars. Partly because of the Summit and also thanks to Leto's love of big stadium "If we're going to make a CD ... we might as well have fun and celebrate the release."

Jared Leto

sounds, This is War is a cross between distorted, grungy rock and arena-ready U2. It's brash and energetic, while Leto's wails pierce through the blistering drums and Edge-like guitar.

The group solicited its followers to submit photos for the CDs cover art. The group took the best and printed 2,000 covers.

"We did it to drive the record company crazy," says Leto, laughing. "We all know that most of us, me included, don't buy these very often anymore. If we're going to make a CD and go through the trouble of printing out a piece of plastic and putting songs on it, we might as well have fun and celebrate the release.'



like lists. They make life so much more orderly. Here's my top ten albums of 2009 in order of release date.

To Lose My Life, White Lies (Released Jan. 12): How can a bunch of guys barely into their twenties already sound so world-weary? Smooth, accom-plished and very mature. I knew this was going to be on my best-of list the first time I heard it.

Ruins of Berlin, Dex Romweber Duo (Feb. 10): Some of the scariest psychobilly I've ever heard. Check out Dex's sister wailing on The Wind Did Move.

Primary Colours, The Horrors (May 5): Primary colours? The only colour that matters here is black
— and that'll have to do until something darker comes along. If you're hoping for a shoegazer revival, it might have started here.

Vickatimest, Grizzly Bear, (May 26): The hipster bloggers got this one right. Hugely ambitious and challenging yet understandable and accessible. Can't

wait for the next album.

Lungs, Florence + The

Machine (July 7): Florence

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EMILY BLUNT

Welch looks like she stepped out of a Renaissance painting (and with good reason — she comes from a long line of art historians). Brilliant, bewitching, beguiling and wonderfully quirky. Kate Bush/Tori Amos fans take note.

Horehound, Weather (July 14): I can just hear the voicemail from Jack White's wife: "Honey? Can you take a break and maybe come home so you can learn the names of your children?"

Backspacer, Pearl Jam (Sept. 22): Eddie and the guys get back to basics with a short, concise and optimistic album that rocks better than anything they've released in years.

Black Gives Way to Blue, Alice in Chains (Sept. 29): Against the odds, they pull it off with a new singer. Dark, muscular and complex, it's a reminder of AIC's original potential. There may yet be a second act for these guys.

Landing, Githead (Nov. 10): Surely the greatest album that no one's heard. Featuring Colin Newman of Wire, the album harkens back to the post-punk artrock of the late 70s.

Them Crooked Vultures, Them Crooked Vultures (Nov. 17): A supergroup that actually lives up to its promise. Imagine that.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be eard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com



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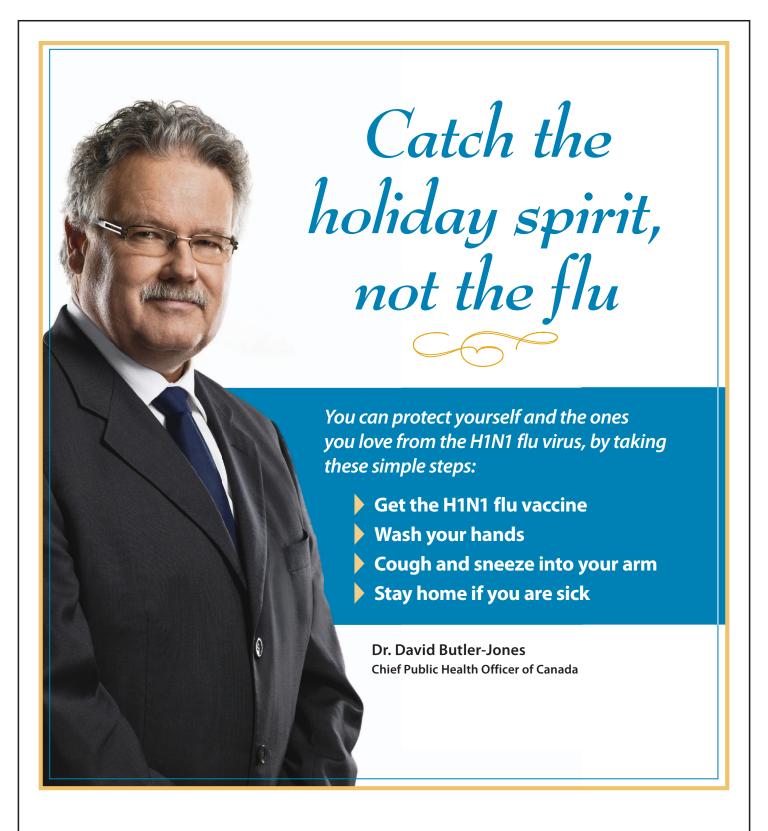






ssary. Enter daily for more chances to win. Contest open to Canadian age, excluding residents of Quebec. Contest closes December 16, Odds of winning depend on number of entries received. For full

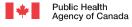




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Glee-ing up for a new choral conductor

Following in the footsteps of Kristin Chenoweth and Jonathan Groff, Tony winner Idina Menzel is in advanced talks to join the cast of Glee. If the deal goes through, she'll be playing the choir director for New Directions' rivals, Vocal Adrenaline. Ew.com

Television



Taylor Kitsch, Scott Porter and Gaius Charles helped make Friday Night Lights about much more than Texas high school football.

The best TV shows from this decade

ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT (2003-2006) It may be the most successful unsuccessful TV show of the decade: an irreverent, wacky sitcom that thrilled its faithful audience while bewildering countless others with its non-sequitur sense of humour.

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (1997-2003) Before Twilight took a stab at dissecting teen angst with romantic fantasy, this

dramedy sunk its teeth into adolescent pain with a disarming realism that belied its lighthearted, supernatural premise.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS (STARTED 2006) Perhaps nowhere did America seem more real in the past decade than in Dillon, Texas, where residents confronted the Iraq war, racism and unemployment as they cheered on their beloved Panthers. Clear eyes, full hearts, can't lose

GILMORE GIRLS (2000-2007) No, the breakneck babble shared between character is not realistic But Lorelai Gilmore (Lauren Graham) and her daughter, Rory (Alexis Bledel), are such meticulously drawn characters that they feel like old

LOST (STARTED IN 2004) With compelling characters, spellbinding storylines and mythical symbolism about a bunch of plane-crash survivors on a mysterious tropical island, Lost has brilliantly bridged the gap between the genres of sci-fi and big-network drama.

friends.

Not only hilarious and unnervingly clever, this British breakout reinvented the sitcom on both sides of the pond with its awkward humour and sly, deadpan delivery.

THE OFFICE (U.K.) (2001-2003)

THE SOPRANOS (1999-2007) When creator David Chase introduced mob boss Tony Soprano (James Gandolfini) to the world, he instantly lifted the traditional popculture Mafioso image from one-dimensional caricature to a mianced enigma

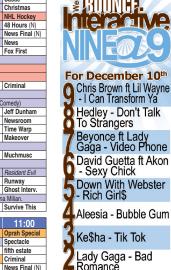
ROCK (STARTED IN 2006) With the impossibly clever one-liners and self-referential storvlines on 30 Rock. Tina Fey's Liz Lemon has became the decade's Mary Tyler Moore, wowing us with her clever jabs at NBC and pithy pokes at product placement.

VERONICA MARS (2004-2007)The short-lived series was something of a high-school noir, from its masterfully plotted first-season murder whodunit to the way that even its sunny California environs were always shaded in foreboding tones.

THE WIRE (2002-2008) Critics have suggested it's not only the best show of the decade, but TV's best show of all time. The crime drama examined the crooks and cops in crime-plagued Baltimore, giving equal face time to both sides.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ke\$ha - Tik Tok Lady Gaga - Bad Romance IYAZ - Replay

Hedley - Don't Talk

Beyonce ft Lady Gaga - Video Phone

David Guetta ft Akon

Aleesia - Bubble Gum

To Strangers

- Sexy Chick



In **brief**

NEWSCASTER MUSICAL

CHAIRS ABC says Chris Cuomo is leaving Good Morning America to co-host the news magazine 20/20. The move paves the way for George Stephanopoulos who may be joining the show. Today is Cuomo's last day on the breakfast television show.

CAT(WOMAN) BURGLAR Prosecutors say they have charged a man suspected of stealing \$25,000 in jewelry from Julie Newmar. The actress who portrayed the first Catwoman on the Batman TV series spotted the pilfered iewelry for sale on eBay and alerted authorities.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





\	primetime 12/12/0	7				The Road to Avonlea				The Magician's House: Secret Cavern (1999, Fantasy)				Christmas
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		9	9	9	CJCH	Laughology (N)	(DVS)	It's a Wonderful L	ife *** (1946, I	Comedy-Drama) J	ames Stewart. (D'	VS)		News
		36	36	36	FOX	Friends	Friends	Seinfeld	30 Years		Cops	America's Most		Fox First
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$\mathbf{\alpha}$		70	70	70	APTN	Over the Bolts	The Mix	MYTV	Aboriginal Day	Music Speaks	Blackfly	Disclosure ***	(1994, Suspense)	
		37	37	37	BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	Spectacle: Elvis	Costello	Star Portraits	Books-Film		Dozen ** (2003, C	omedy)
		49	49	49	COM	VIP	Bet Your Ass	Comedy Now	Comedy Now	Corner Gas	Jeff Dunham	The Simpsons	South Park	Jeff Dunham
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	3/09	7 7 7 ASN		The Road to Avonlea		TMZ (N)		The Christmas Blessing (2005, Drama)				Spectacle		
	12/1	11	11 11 11 CBC		Rudolph, the Reindeer		The Polar Express *** (2004, Far		ntasy), Nona Gaye		CBC News: The National (N)		fifth estate	
		32	32	32 C	CBS	NFL Football		60 Minutes (HDT	TV) (N)	The Mentalist (H	IDTV)	Cold Case "Iced"	' (N)	Criminal
	Ĕ	6	6	6 C	HF	16:9 Picture	Prod. Parker	Family Guy	American Dad	The Simpsons	Cleveland	Family Guy	American Dad	News Final (N)
	primetime	9	9	9 C	JCH	Transformers **	* (2007, Action) S	Shia LaBeouf, Tyre		Ouhamel.		Christmas- White House		News
NDAY	Ë	36	36	36 F	ОХ	Cold Case "Thrill		Brothers	Brothers	The Simpsons		Family Guy	American Dad	Fox First
	<u>a</u>	12	12	12 N	IBC	News	NBC News	Football Night in	n America	(9:15) NFL Foot	ball Philadelphia E	agles at New Yorl	c Giants.	
	sports	55	55	55 SCOR (6) NFL Blitz			The WWE Experience		MMA Fight Night				Poker	
	sb	53	53	53 T			SportsCentre	Football Night in			ball Philadelphia E			
		16	16	16 A	\&E	Criminal Minds "	Doubt"	Criminal Minds	(HDTV)	Criminal Minds	(HDTV)	Jacksons: A Fai	mily Dynasty	Jacksons
		70				Investigates	APTN InFocus	Aboriginal Day	The Mix	Arbor Live		Whale Rider ★★:	* (2002, Drama)	
		37			RVO Spectacle: Elvis			Arts & Minds	Bravo!FACT	Rankin Sisters		The Family Man *** (2000)		
5		49		49 C		VIP	Bet Your Ass	Laughs	Laughs	Comedy Now	Comedy Now	The Simpsons	South Park	Tosh.0
		18	18	18 C	CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom
S		38		38 D		Canada's Worst		Canada's Worst		Canada's Worst		Canada's Worst		MythBusters
		34	48	48 H	GTV	Design Inc. Holid	day	Sarah's Holiday		Season of Surp	rise	Holmes Inspecti	on	Renovation
		46		46 H		Ice Road Trucke		Ancient Discove		Dogfights			6, Historical Dram	
	≥	17	17		MM	Secret Life of Ar		So You Think Yo		Year of Teen Po	wer (N)	50 Moments	50 Moments	50 Moments
	variety	206		206 I		(6:30) Bend of th			ow ★★ (1994, Acti				* (2001, Comedy)	
	평	39				NCIS "Love & Wa		Cra\$h & Burn			enture) Caterina Si			Found.
	2	40		40 SI		X-Weighted "Ran			My Wardrobe	Tim Gunn's Gui		Tori & Dean: Ho		Pageant
	cable	21		21 1		Untold Stories o		Untold Stories of		Mermaid Girl: La	ast 6 Months	6 Going on 60 (I		Without Arms
	g	22	22		W	Fearl-Kitchen	Grocery Bag		Billionaire: A Christ				tmas Eve (2004, D	
		27	27	27 ١	/TV	Smurfy	Garfield Xmas	Charlie Brown	Flintstones	He-Man, She-Ra	Christmas	ALF	ALF	Survive This

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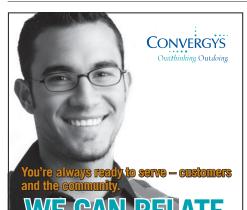


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relationship management

34 movies&entertainment

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

Inglourious Basterds DVD Never mind the critics, the subtitles and Brad Pitt. Quentin Tarantino's gloriously irreverent Second World War epic ups the ante on everything you love about movies - action, drama, suspense, humour, plain badasserv, it's all here. And, for the record, it's not

Pitt's film. It belongs to one German

dude called Christophe Waltz.

Invictus



The Onion Presents Our Front Pages: 1988-2008 BOOK One of the world's funniest "newspapers" compiles its finest cover pages. Sam-

ple headlines: Canada signs non-aggression pact with the United States (1990): New Starbucks opens in rest room of existing Starbucks (1998). Enough said.



FILM When it comes to consistency in Hollywood, Clint Eastwood is as reliable as it gets. In his latest offering, about a game of rugby that united a post-apartheid South Africa, the director seems to have a winner once again. Matt Damon stars but all the buzz is around Morgan Freeman, who plays Nelson Mandela. Mr. Oscar's taking notes.

Charlotte Gainsbourg

CELEBRITY Belle de jour? You betcha! French pop icon Serge Gainsbourg's daughter made waves earlier this year for her shocking role in Antichrist. Now, she's released a hypnotic new album called IRM (MRI in French) in collaboration with Beck.

Spectacle SERIES The second-season opener of Elvis Costello's

music show is quite the spectacle. The British-born, Vancouver resident has locked in Bono and The Edge for the episode, who perform several U2 hits. Spectacle airs today on CTV. Check local listings for times.

Touch Pets: Dogs

APP Want a virtual woof? There's an app for that. Get your fingertips wagging with a cuddly canine of your choice with this social game. The app uses uses an energy system. As long as your puppy has been fed and has energy, you collect puppy bucks for participating

in training exercises, "career" advancement, play time, and social engagements with other dogs. The "cash" is used to buy new toys and gear for your dog.

Dexter Season 4 Finale TV Kudos to John Lithgow (and the writers) for adding some fresh dramatic blood to this crime series. After a tepid third season, everyone's favourite serial killer (Michael C. Hall as Dexter) met a match in Lithgow's devious Arthur Mitchell. And, if the last few episodes are any indication, the finale will be one big nail biter. Season 4's episode 12 airs Sunday on The Movie Network. Check local listings for times

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Going Out

Crow, Blige join **Lilith Fair 2010**

MUSIC Sheryl Crow, Mary J. Blige, Sugarland and Erykah Badu are among the artists who will join Sarah McLachlan during her revived Lilith Fair tour

Canadian indie-pop duo Tegan and Sara, Toronto new-wave rockers Metric. and Philadelphia soul singer and actress Jill Scott are also among the artists announced.

Other performers include Émmylou Harris, Chantal Kreviazuk and Indigo Girls.

The all-female touring festival drew more than 1.5 million fans between 1997 and 1999 in its original incarnation.

Earlier this year, organizers announced that the festival would return next summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mix of Six

A Christmas Carol

When: Through Jan. 3 Where: Neptune Theatre

This holiday classic is being showcased for the first time ever as a musical, and will be sure to delight audiences during its six week run at Neptune's Fountain Hall. For ticket information and showtimes, visit neptunetheatre.com.

Brigadoon

When: Through Saturday Where: Neptune Theatre

A production by Neptune's Young Performance Company, this play is set in 1746 and tells the tale of a mysterious village in the Scottish Highlands that appears for only one day every 100 years. For ticket information, visit neptunetheatre.com.

QMJHL Hocket

When: Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.

Where: Halifax Metro Centre

Don't look now, but the Halifax Mooseheads are starting to play some decent hockey with a 6-5-1 record in their last 12 games. This weekend they face the Moncton Wildcats on Friday and the Prince Edward Island Rocket Satur-Adult tickets are \$14.50.

The Nutcracker

When: Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Where: Rebecca Cohn Auditorium

This annual Symphony Nova Scotia production is a holiday ballet filled with colourful puppets and beautiful music. The show closes this weekend with tickets \$37 for adults and \$19 for children.

The Sweet Sounds

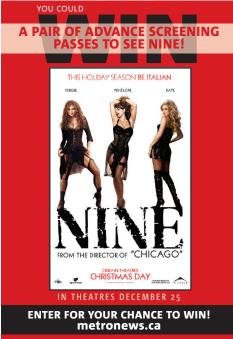
of Christmas When: Saturday, 7 p.m. Where: Black Cultural Centre, 1149 Main St.

The Sweet Sound of Christmas features an array of local talented individuals of diverse cultural and music backgrounds. Admission is \$10 adults, \$5 students.

Sizzling Salsa

When: Sunday, 7 p.m. Where: World Trade and Convention Centre

Featuring the Canadian Primos, this event will be 100 per cent Latino music as people will also have the chance to learn to Salsa Halifax with Salseros Dance. Tickets are \$20 each.





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Georgia May Jagger was named Model of the Year at the British Fashion Awards on Wednesday night, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The 17-year-old is the daughter of Jerry Hall and Mick Jagger. METRO NEWS SERVICES

first.co.uk reports. The 17-year-old is the

Celebrity tweets

Celebrity Buzz

John Mayer muses about cheating, Kirstie Alley tries to lead Tiger out of the Woods,

Nicole Richie has career advice for Big Bird, and Hugh Hefner continues to gross us out.

• @johncmayer If a man really wanted to get away with cheating on his woman, he'd store his other girls' name in his phone as "low battery."

• @kirstiealley I beg Mr. Woods to REFUSE to pay his extorters. Let em sell their idiot stories Just step up and



give \$ to people who really need it. FORGIVEN

• @nicolerichie How did Elmo end up the star of Sesame Street? When I was little it was all about Big Bird! Now he's a has-been. He needs a good scandal. • Chughhefner
Things are getting
serious with Crystal
and me. I love the
girl.

girl.
METRO WORLD
NEWS



Yeah, we don't get it either

NFL star claims Tila Tequila lied about assault

SHOTS AT TEQUILA San Diego Chargers superstar Shawne Merriman is suing his former girlfriend Tila Tequila, claiming she lied about claims Merriman beat her up back in September in an attempt to ruin his career, TMZ.com reports.

In the lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court, Merriman claims Tequila posted all sorts of lies on her website, including stories that Merriman "choked and attacked" her, "sleeps with minors and forces them to take drugs," and that he manufactures drugs in his home.

Merriman also claims in the documents that Tequila admitted her lying scheme, at one time stating, "Yes, that is why I did a





Alexa Ray's folks lash out at media

GET WELL SOON, KIDDO In light of some media coverage of their daughter Alexa Ray Joel's recent hospital stay, her parents, Billy Joel and Christie Brinkley, have issued a statement to the media, people.com reports.

ment to the media, people.com reports. It reads: "Every parent can imagine the pain and anguish we face as parents of a daughter who is working to recover from the dangerous actions she took while suffering a devastating heartbreak.

"As much as we hate dignifying tabloid stories with a response, we feel we must set the record straight to protect our family. The story that ran in the New York Post on

Dec. 8, and has been subsequently spread across the Internet, is filled with vicious lies and attempts to smear our character and that of our beloved daughter."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Levi's Playgirl cover brings in lumpy sales

HANG OUT THERE, LEVI It seems that Levi Johnston's big old Playgirl.com reveal was a bit flaccid in sales department, popeater.com reports "Nowhere near enough people paid the \$19.95 to cover the reported \$150,000 the fading

brand paid the Alaskan hunk to go rogue," a magazine source tells the website.

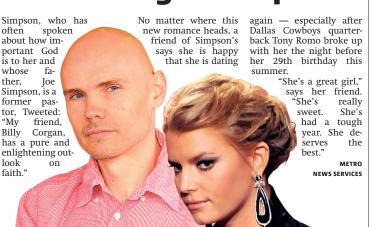
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Is Jessica romancing a Pumpkin?

AT MIDNIGHT HE TURNS INTO A HAS-BEEN ROCK STAR Jessica Simpson and Smashing Pumpkins frontman Billy Corgan have started dating — and are taking things slow, says a source close to the pop star, people.com reports. "They are getting to know each other," says the source. "He's a nice guy."

On Friday, Simpson, 29, and Corgan, 42, were spotted together in New York City. She was in town earlier in the week for sister Ashlee Simpson Wentz's Broadway debut in the musical Chicago.

Corgan's spirituality may just be what appeals to Simpson. On Sep. 11,



Underwood: Romo didn't inspire any of my songs

THERE GO ALL MY 'BEFORE HE wrong," the 26-year-old country star says. "I would CHEATS' THEORIES Carrie Underwood isn't writing any never give him that much sad songs about ex credit. Tony Romo, us-The American Idol magazine.com realum dated Romo in ports. In fact, she 2007, but by October of that year, she seemed to have had assures Esquire magazine that her Cowboy enough. song Casanova was most METRO NEWS definitely not about SERVICES the Dallas Cowboys quar terback. "No, I would never immortalize a guy that did me

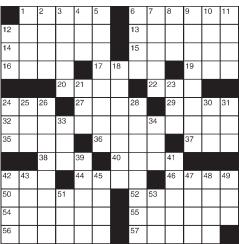








ous Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone - one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

2	1					4	6
			8	4			
4		3			9		7
		4	3	9	1		
	6					2	
		8	6	2	5		
8		9			2		5
			7	5			
1	5					7	9

- 1 Exact moment 6 Ducks 12 Sweatshirt
- tvpe 13 Strip 14 Against diffi-
- culties 15 Starbucks size
- 16 Mexican mon-
- 17 Rams fans? 19 Dancer Charisse 20 Partner
- 22 Keatsian piece 24 — de deux 27 Siamese
- 29 On the rocks 32 Rare 35 Lowly laborer
- 36 Corner 37 Opposite of post-
- 38 Kvetch 40 Took to the skies
- 42 Copper head? 44 Oldies player 46 Status in a hi-
- erarchy 50 Press hard, as

brakes 52 Fan, and then some

54 Maiestic 55 Show hosts 56 "Allakazam!"

31 Coloring

33 Geneticist's

34 Mamie's hub-

39 Common Hal-

loween costume

41 Destruction

42 Now, initially

43 Vision prob-

45 Grooving on

48 Yeses' undo-

47 Sheltered

49 Gold units

51 Greek conso-

53 Flightless bird

2 6 4 9 5 3

9 3 1 8 4

6 1 2

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6 2 8

1 4 9

3 5 7 1

4 7 2 5 3 1

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RIFD VENISON \$8

20 BOILED VENISON \$ 7
BAKED VENISON \$ 9

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nants

- 57 Fists, slangily
- 1 Vatican VIP
- 2 Ahs' partners 3 Figure of speech
- 4 Goose egg 5 Fundraising show
- 6 Advantage 7 Lefthand page 8 Ortiz of "Ugly
- Betty" 9 Mortarboard's opposite?
- 10 Vortex 11 Start a garden
- 12 Cadence-call syllable 18 Gradually dis-
- appear - standstill
- 23 Noise 24 Vim and vigor

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

CHOP

25 Chopper

8

4 3 9

9 1 3

7 6 5

6 9 8

7

2 5 4 8

SANTA'S EVIL TWIN CAFÉ

2

26 Old time? Metro Recipe of the Day 28 Put on a pedestal 30 Screw up



Creamy Liver with Leeks and Bacon

INGREDIENTS:

6 strips bacon, chopped 1 lb (500 g) calf's liver, thinly sliced 2/3 lb (300 g) baby leeks, sliced diagonally 2 tsp (10 ml) oil, if needed 1 1/3 cups (325 ml) beef stock

2 tbsp (25 ml) balsamic vinegar 4 tbsp (60 ml) heavy cream

METHOD:

1. Heat wide sauté pan and fry bacon over fairly high heat 4-5 minutes or until golden brown. Lift out with slotted spoon 2. Add liver to pan and fry quickly about 2 minutes per side or until evenly

coloured. Remove and keep hot with bacon. 3 Add leeks to pan, with oil if needed, and fry for 30 seconds, stirring. Stir in stock and heat until boiling. Simmer 2-3 minutes or until leeks are just tender.

Take Five

4 Stir in balsamic vinegar and return liver and pancetta or bacon to pan. Stir in heavy cream. Bring to boil. Adjust seasoning to taste and serve.

SERVES 4



For nutritional infor mation on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20

You will get a huge burst of extra energy today as the Sun makes the best possible angle to your ruler Mars.

LIBRA SEPT 23-OCT 23

This is the kind of day when you will want to get things done, but because others are not so ambitious you may have to go it alone.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21 Family and financial matters

will take up most of your time today but if you knuckle down you won't have to worry about them again for quite some time.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22
You will find it easy enough to convince people to support you today, even if they don't quite believe that you know what you are doing.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21 If there is something you have done that you are less than

On the web

proud about now is a good time to own up and get it off vour conscience

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

Some people seem to be under the impression that you will be there for them every hour and every minute of every day.

CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22

Good news is coming your way and it is the kind of news you

will want to share, so spend time with friends and family and put work plans on hold.

CAPRICORN **DEC 22-JAN 20**

Don't give in too easily today, es pecially on the work front where colleagues and employers will happily take advantage if you don't stand up for yourself.

LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

Why is everyone so cautious and fearful? Whatever the reason there is no reason why you should let their negative attitude rub off on you.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18
There is no point dwelling on what might have been and the good news today is that you will be too busy having fun to worry about failures.

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22

Don't be afraid to take a few chances today and don't be suspicious if someone in a position of power offers you something you have long desired.

FEB 19-MARCH 20
Today's cosmic alignment can help you break a habit that once held you up but is now holding you back

This day in history

1941: World War II: Germany and Italy declare war on the United States, following the Americans' declaration of war on Japan in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The United States, in turn, declares war on Germany and Italy.

1962: The last execution ever in Canada occurs to Arthur Lucas for

1964: Che Guevara speaks at the United Nations General Assembly in New York City. An unknown terrorist fires a mortar shell at the building during the speech.

2008: Bernard Madoff is arrested and charged with securities fraud in a \$50 billion Ponzi scheme.





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